

1996

April 14, 1996
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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19250

MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1996

ISS 420 JELAF 015 3001

INSIDE EIGHT PAGES FROM SUNDAY'S

The New York Times

WEEKLY REVIEW

Annual Holocaust memorial begins tonight

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE official opening ceremony for Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day takes place tonight at 8 p.m. at Yad Vashem on Jerusalem's Mt. Herzl, with the participation of President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Shimon Peres. The ceremony, including the lighting of the torches (Story, Page 4), will be broadcast live on Channels 1 and 2, Israel Radio, and Army Radio.

A record 1.3 million people have visited Yad Vashem since last year's Holocaust Remembrance Day, chairman Avner Shalev said yesterday.

During the same period, some 70,000 high school pupils attended seminars devoted to the Holocaust, and 500 teachers spent a full year studying the subject. Most of them were elementary and junior high school teachers who do not normally teach history.

"This reflects a trend on the part of the youth today to show an interest in the Holocaust at an early age, an interest which is expressed also in the classroom," Shalev said. He added that third- and fourth-generation survivors are also showing a growing interest in the Holocaust and that the authority is planning to adapt itself to the demands for information from this new public.

The ongoing effort to record any remaining witnesses is being speeded up, Shalev said, and an 80,000-dossier archive from Germany is being transferred to Jerusalem as part of the efforts to make Yad Vashem the foremost center of Holocaust information in the world. The entire archive will be computerized.

The Education and Tourism ministries and the WJC's Claims Conference, together with the Friends of Yad Vashem, are allocating more than \$45 million for the building of an expanded museum, a school for Holocaust studies, and an orientation center at the entrance to the campus, he said.

A multi-media kit, suitable for use here and abroad, has been prepared using state-of-the-art methods to bring the user closer to the study of the period and the emotions experienced by the survivors.

Verdict today in Diniz trial

A verdict is to be handed down today in the trial of former Jewish Agency chairman Simcha Diniz in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court. Diniz was charged with using agency funds to purchase personal items during his tenure as chairman.

Bill Hurman



Smoke rises from buildings in the south Lebanese town of Nabatiya after an air force raid yesterday. IAF fighters struck twice into the center of the market town. (Reuters)

Peres: Operation will continue until Hizbullah ceases its attacks

LIAT COLLINS

"If Hizbullah ceases its attacks, we will cease ours," Prime Minister Shimon Peres said in a statement issued after yesterday's cabinet meeting.

The meeting was devoted to the events in the North and Operation Grapes of Wrath. Reports were given by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and senior IDF officers involved in the operation.

The cabinet also announced that Israel has no intention of occupying Lebanon and has no intention of entering into battles with either the Syrian or the Lebanese armies. A long government statement was read to the press by Cabinet Secretary Shmuel Hollander in Peres's name after the meeting.

"The policy is to not injure civilians. If civilians were injured, this stemmed from the fact that they traveled in a vehicle in which there was a terrorist or terrorists, or they were found in their vicinity. For our part, we will endeavor to prevent losses on our side, as well as injury to Lebanese citizens.

"Hizbullah has breached all previous understandings and has deliberately created an escalation. The US has established that the

understandings which were achieved through its mediation, have not been honored by Hizbullah," the statement said. Hollander said Israel had not requested US intervention but is "reporting to the US."

Peres told the cabinet French President Jacques Chirac had complained to him that Israel's response had been out of proportion to the attacks. Peres reportedly replied that he would like to see how Chirac would react if Paris were shelled.

The declaration stated that Israel "will not allow firing from within villages and will not permit Hizbullah to conceal itself among the civilian population, and from there launch Katyushas at communities in the North.

"Hizbullah terrorists and facilities in Lebanon, including those in Beirut, will not enjoy immunity. Israel is not limited by time and has the patience, fortitude and ability to continue carrying out the required actions until the Hizbullah attacks cease."

One clause of the statement notes that if Israeli civilian facilities are hit, there will be

no immunity from strikes on equivalent Lebanese facilities. This apparently refers to actions like the IAF attack on a power production plant in Jumbur in retaliation for the Hizbullah shelling of the power grid in Kiryat Shmona. The IAF raid took place as the statement was being read.

"We did not conquer the security zone. The Lebanese authorities have essentially left it unclaimed and turned it into a terrorist operating theater. We will not accept the free hand the Lebanese government grants to the terrorist headquarters to operate on its territory, without interference," Peres said.

The cabinet and Peres expressed appreciation to the IDF and noted national support for its policy in the North. An ad hoc ministerial committee, chaired by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, was appointed to provide assistance to communities in the North. Peres recommended that Kiryat Shmona be granted special status.

Meretz ministers - Yossi Sarid, Amnon Rubinstein and Yair Tzaban - warned of repeating past mistakes in Lebanon and getting bogged down in a war.

Two hurt in Hizbullah Katyusha attacks, fighting continues

DAVID RUDGE

TWO people were lightly hurt and extensive damage was caused to property and livestock in a barrage of nearly 50 Katyusha rockets on the Galilee yesterday.

Rachel Kimri, 40, of Moshav Margalio, suffered very light shrapnel wounds to her face and arm when a Katyusha rocket exploded as she was going to her chicken sheds to feed the animals.

She was taken to the Magen David Adom front-line emergency ward in Kiryat Shmona, and later transferred to Safed's Rebecca Sief Hospital.

A rocket scored a direct hit on a chicken shed on another northern settlement, killing thousands of young fowl and causing extensive damage, but no human casualties.

The rocket attacks on the Galilee Panhandle, which began around 9 a.m., continued throughout the day with one or two falling in salvoes in various parts of the area.

In parallel, Hizbullah gunmen also fired at civilian targets in Nahariya and other parts of Western Galilee. In the afternoon, one of the rockets hit a school building that was empty following the decision not to hold classes in most confrontation line settlements.

Later, at about 7:30 p.m. another salvo of rockets was fired at the Western Galilee. One of the rockets hit a bomb shelter and a teenage girl was treated for shock. Otherwise, there were no casualties.

An hour later two more salvoes slammed into the Galilee Panhandle region, causing some minor damage, but there were no immediate reports of casualties.

Katyusha rockets also fell in parts of the security zone. In one incident, a rocket struck a South Lebanese Army position and a soldier was lightly wound-

ed and had to be taken to the hospital for treatment.

In another case a rocket, apparently mistakenly fired by Hizbullah gunners, scored a direct hit on the command headquarters of UNIFIL in Nakoura, inside the security zone.

UNIFIL officers said the rocket blasted a workshop which was fortunately empty at the time causing extensive damage but no casualties.

President Ezer Weizman spent Saturday night in Kiryat Shmona and continued his solidarity visit to the North yesterday, meeting residents at several towns and villages along the border. He expressed the hope that Operation Grapes of Wrath would produce longer-lasting tranquility for residents of the North than previous operations.

Shortly after his arrival in Kiryat Shmona on Saturday night, the town was hit by a salvo of Katyusha rockets which cut power supplies and plunged the city into darkness.

Police Inspector-General Asaf Hefetz also visited Kiryat Shmona yesterday to issue a certificate of commendation to Warr. Ofc. David Bouthut, who helped pull Haimi Hini from a blazing car after a rocket landed in the town Friday morning.

As the Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee continued unabated yesterday, more and more people decided to leave for safer areas after spending days and nights in security rooms and bomb shelters.

Police, however, stressed they would be on duty to prevent any attempts by looters to exploit the situation, as happened in one case in Kiryat Shmona.

A looter was caught last night by Civil Guard volunteers who are guarding homes whose owners have left the town. During a

routine check, the suspect became alarmed and fled. He was caught with marijuana and money he is suspected of stealing from the abandoned homes.

IDF, municipalities and social services implemented emergency procedures to take food and other essential items, including medicines, to those who preferred to remain and continue living in bomb shelters.

According to some estimates, around 500 buildings have been damaged in the wave of Katyusha rocket attacks causing millions of shekels worth of damage.

The attacks have closed down many businesses, factories, shops and other workplaces, while tourism in the Galilee which would normally be flourishing at this time of year, has ceased completely.

The total cost of the damage to agriculture, tourism, and commerce is said to be running into tens of millions of shekels, directly and indirectly.

"This is not the first time there have been Katyushas, but thank God there have not been any serious problems," said Metulla Local Council chairman Yossi Goldberg.

"They have been trying to attack us for months. It's not a new thing. We know that from time to time we have to live under the threat of the terrorists, especially Hizbullah, and this is the reason the IDF is trying to stop them."

"It may take a few days or a week, but we are ready for as long as it takes until there is peace and quiet on both sides of the border," he said.

He said a few people had temporarily moved out of the town because of the security situation, but most are staying put. "This is our home and this is our life here, including in conditions like those we have now. In the face of terrorism, we are building tourism," he said.

'Talks with Lebanon when Katyushas stop'

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

FOREIGN Minister Ehud Barak said yesterday that Israel would be ready to negotiate an end to Operation Grapes of Wrath only when Beirut makes it practically impossible for Hizbullah to fire rockets at Israel.

Speaking to CNN International, Barak said: "What we have said is if the conditions will be created by actions of the government of Lebanon that would make the shooting of Katyushas toward Israel something which is practically impossible, then we will be ready to negotiate."

But Barak said the four-day-old operation had two objectives - to hit at the Iranian-backed gunmen and make clear that Israel expects the Lebanese government to halt the Katyushas.

"It doesn't mean that we are going to stop our shooting when the equivalent of 10 million Americans are in shelters in Israel," Barak said.

In New York, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations has expressed its support for the government, saying Israel has the right "to defend its citizens against the intolerable situation" in the North created by the Hizbullah attacks.

The conference also welcomed the support of the Clinton administration, noting that Secretary of State Warren Christopher has blamed Hizbullah for the current crisis.

200,000 flee in Lebanon as Katyushas still hit North

DAVID RUDGE and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

ISRAEL Air Force planes and helicopter gunships blasted a power station and a Hizbullah nerve center in the Beirut region, as well as a target in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley yesterday, as Operation Grapes of Wrath continued unabated.

A defiant Hizbullah continued to pelt the North with Katyushas, hitting towns and villages in the Galilee with nearly 50 rockets, lightly wounding two people and causing extensive damage to property and livestock.

The IAF continued to seek out and destroy Hizbullah targets during the night, after more than 240 daytime sorties. The air raids knocked out a Hizbullah radio station in the Bekaa, hit a command center in the heart of Beirut, and knocked out electricity in Beirut in retaliation for damage to power lines in the North. As the fighting continued to rage, the exodus of civilians from communities in the Galilee and north of the security zone grew in proportion.

The number of refugees fleeing south Lebanon reached about 200,000, after the IDF warned it would hit Hizbullah targets in Tyre and dozens of villages south of the Litani River. The coastal road leading to Beirut was reported to be completely blocked with traffic.

According to reports from Lebanon, about 200 villages had been evacuated by last night, including most of Tyre which has a population of nearly 60,000.

Those who could not find transport north continued to make their way to UNIFIL positions north of the security zone. UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said that some 9,000 villagers were camped inside compounds of the international peacekeeping force or near their perimeters.

Reports from Lebanon said that one Katyusha hit inside the UNIFIL base in Nakoura causing extensive damage, but no injuries.

"The fire in many instances comes from inside the villages. They keep the rockets inside houses, take them out and fire, then return to the house. We saw them fire from a school and other public buildings," said Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak.

He said the IDF's call for all residents in southern Lebanon to flee northward is meant to keep them from being hurt. "We hope the exodus will prevent civilians from being harmed. We will continue to act wherever Hizbullah can be found. We won't let Hizbullah hide among civilians or use the residents of south Lebanon as a shield," he said.

OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon said his people had information Hizbullah is trying to carry out suicide attacks in the security zone and that it may even try to infiltrate Israel with a terrorist flying a hang glider. He said Israeli and Jewish targets abroad are also on alert against possible attacks by Hizbullah, which is being aided by Iran.

Ya'alon also said diplomats at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut (Continued on Page 2)



Our Brethren In Distress - We Are One With You!

The Katyusha attacks on Kiryat Shmona and adjoining Jewish communities are a painful preview of what lies in store for us. They are what we may expect from those Arabs who are not interested in a true peace with a Jewish State, and to whom a written agreement is meaningless.

Women In Green have organized a country-wide show of solidarity and support for our brethren in the North, who have been subjected to prolonged, harrowing and murderous Katyusha attacks.

Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, April 16 and 17, 1996, our **Women In Green** will be at the following locations, on the dates and times listed below, to collect games, toys, and books for the children of the North (money donations for such purchases can also be made).

Bat Yam: Wed., Kfar Haimatzava (next to Bank Leumi) 15:00-18:00
Beer Sheva: Tue. & Wed., HaCanyon Hagadol, 16:00-18:00
Bnei Brak: Tue., home of Tony Sabato, 16:00-18:00
Beit Shimon: Tue. & Wed., Mercat Mishari Yefet Hashamesh, Sdorat Hadekel, Givat Sharent, 10:00-13:00
Eilat: Tue. & Wed., Mercat Mishari, 16:00-18:00
Eilat: Wed., plaza in front of Shekem, 16:00-19:00
Givat Ze'ev: 37 Rehov Emak Ayalon (Carolyn), Tue., 15:00-21:00, Wed., 9:00-21:00
Haifa: Wed., Mercat Horev, 11:00-14:00
Hebron: Tue. & Wed., Municipal Offices, Jewish Community, 11:00-13:00
Jerusalem: Tue. & Wed., HaMashbir Plaza, King George Street, 11:00-14:00
Karmel Shomron: Wed., 9 Rehov HaRimon, Neve Alza, 19:00-21:00
Kinneret Moshava (Hazorim, Givat Ami, Migdal): Tue., 16:00-18:00
Kiryat Arba: Tue. & Wed., Community Center, 14:00-17:00
Kiryat Ono: Tue. & Wed., Mercat Mishari Kiron, 13:00-15:00
Ma'alot Admunim: Tue., Wed. & Thur., Co-op in Mercat, 16:00-18:00
Metar: Tue., Mercat Mishari, 15:00-17:00
Netanya: Wed., Canyon HaSharon, 16:30-18:30
Rafanana: Wed., HaMashbir, 16:30-18:30
Rehovot: Wed., Shekem Passage, 17:00-19:00
Tel Aviv: Tue. & Wed., home of Yael Amiel, 18:00-21:00
Tel Aviv: Tue. & Wed., Kikar Dizangoff, Chan Cinema, 17:00-20:00

WOMEN IN GREEN
 (Women for Israel's Tomorrow)
 P.O. Box 7352, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-249885, 02-249887.

Peres: Ground forces won't return to Lebanon

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that the war against Hizbullah is liable to go on for some time, but that he would not order a massive ground offensive into Lebanon.

"We have no intention of returning to Lebanon. I was the prime minister when we removed our forces from Lebanon. I don't want to be the prime minister who returns the forces to Lebanon. There is no intention of this sort," Peres told reporters.

In the what is turning out to be a war of nerves, Peres said the mission of Operation Grapes of Wrath is to rid the threat of Katyushas in the North and to soldiers in the security zone.

"The aim is that they do not fire at all. They should talk and not shoot," Peres said during a visit to an improvised air base in the North, where he met with helicopter pilots returning from missions in Lebanon.

He hinted that for the time being he is not seeking an agreement with Hizbullah similar to the US-brokered agreement following the 1993 Operation Accountability. In

that unwritten understanding, each side agreed not to target civilians.

"There is nothing to reach an agreement about. We have one understanding. We don't want to fire on Lebanese civilians and we don't want our civilians to be fired upon from Lebanon," Peres said.

He defended the attack on a Beirut power relay station, saying it was in retaliation for knocking out the power to Kiryat Shmona.

"If Hizbullah hits the electricity in Kiryat Shmona, the electricity will be hit in Beirut. If they fire at Metulla, we will fire at the Hizbullah compound in Beirut," Peres said.

He refused to give an indication of how long residents of the North would have to sit in bomb shelters.

"It is not just up to us," Peres said. "I can only say we will do our utmost so that it ends in the shortest amount of time possible. But we need a dose of endurance.

We don't think that we can finish it up in one fell swoop. The alternative is a supervised, methodical action with the endurance that it needs."

Lebanese premier holds talks with Mubarak

News agencies

LEBANESE Prime Minister Rafik Hariri met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday to canvass support for his country in the face of four days of Israeli air and artillery attacks.

Egypt's Prime Minister Kamal Ganzouri and Foreign Minister Amr Moussa also attended the talks along with Lebanese officials accompanying Hariri.

Hariri was expected to meet Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid later yesterday and call for an urgent League meeting to discuss Israel's operation in Lebanon.

On Saturday, Mubarak sent a message to the Lebanese government urging an end to the violence and a return to peace talks between the Arabs and Israelis.



President Ezer Weizman and his wife, Renana, share a laugh with Kiryat Shmona residents in a bomb shelter, where they spent Saturday night. (Aviva Shapiro/Israel Sun)

Under attack on the front lines

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

DAVID RUDGE

THERE was a whizzing, whirring sound, followed by a loud thump as the Katyusha struck nearby, close enough to set the adrenaline flowing but nothing more.

A quick look outside revealed a cloud of smoke spiraling into the air from where the rocket had exploded on a grass-and-scrub-covered hillside opposite.

Close, but far enough away for safety. I could imagine the dry lines that would be written about this particular Katyusha attack: "A rocket fell in the Galilee panhandle yesterday, causing no injuries or damage."

There wasn't even any point jumping into the car and racing over to the scene of the explosion. This time, thankfully, there would be nothing to write about.

Another rocket had joined the innumerable number that have left their scars on the Galilee countryside over the years. "If only they would all fall on the hills, in the wadis, or the open countryside, and not on the towns and villages."

The thought was still echoing when there was the whoosh of a second rocket, the air dis-

placed by its passing sucking in the curtains of the room and blowing them out again.

A heartbeat later the sound of an explosion which shook the hotel room and rattled the windows, followed a second or two later by that familiar tingling feeling and strange taste in the mouth. Under fire again.

Another adrenaline surge, and then running outside to find out where the rocket had exploded and whether this time, God forbid, there might be casualties.

There could be another one, but you don't think about it as the work-mode part of the mind takes over.

No need for the car this time. The scene of the blast is less than 150 meters away - even less as the Katyusha flies. Some damage, but thankfully no casualties, a few interviews and then back to write up the story.

It's only when the story is written that the thought comes unbidden that you might have made the headline instead of reporting about

someone else's close call.

Mad dogs and Englishmen out in the midday sun, and journalists chasing rockets when safer members of the public are in shelters or some place out of Katyusha range.

In Gulf War parlance, it would no doubt be called "Katyusha syndrome." For those who report the news from the field, it is more simply called "doing the job."

It goes, as they say, with the territory. Nights without sleep as the guns blaze away and the helicopters clatter and warplanes soar overhead on the real missions.

The cacophony is exacerbated by the phoning, the beeper going off with yet another message in the early hours of the morning.

And there was that one night when the room really shook, so you were awake in a second, jumping out of bed and running to the window, only to find it was raining outside. The noise was not a rocket, but a thunderstorm directly overhead.

A false alarm and back to sleep, maybe, if you're lucky, for an hour or two, until the next time.

FLEE

(Continued from Page 1)

had fled to Damascus, apparently seeking to avoid being targeted by Israel.

Lebanese security sources said at least one person was killed and seven wounded in IAF attacks.

According to the reports, the IAF carried out at least 20 separate strikes, including one in which the empty home of a Hizbullah leader was destroyed.

OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Hertz

Bodinger said the attack on the power relay station only caused minimal damage, which could easily be repaired. He said the attack was really a message to the government that if it allows Hizbullah to make life uncomfortable for Israelis in the Galilee, life in their capital would also suffer.

Under instructions to fire back at anyone who fires at them, pilots rocketed a Lebanese Army tank after it opened fire, Bodinger said. It was not clear if any

Lebanese soldiers were hurt in the attack.

"This is a war of nerves and a war of signals and a war in which the side which has the greater tenacity, perseverance, and patience is going to win. We never said that we could stop the Katyusha rockets overnight, not even with the kind of technology that we have," said Col. Ra'anan Gissin, an army spokesman.

The army spokesman noted that Hizbullah command centers, which were issuing orders to

fighters to continue Katyusha rocket attacks and other terrorist activities, are continuing to operate freely.

Later in the afternoon, the IAF hit a radio station of another terrorist organization linked to Hizbullah causing extensive damage.

Hizbullah's Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, meanwhile, again indicated the organization would not confine its retaliatory activities to Lebanon and northern Israel. He strongly intimated that it would also hit Israeli and Jewish targets abroad.

More rocket attacks were reported on the Galilee last night as remaining residents in the region prepared to spend yet another night in bomb shelters and security rooms.

British defense minister arrives

STEVE RODAN

BRITISH Defense Minister Michael Portillo arrived yesterday for a four-day visit to discuss cooperation in counterterrorism and defense projects.

Portillo meets this morning with Prime Minister and Defense Minister Shimon Peres and will be welcomed by an honor guard in Jerusalem. This is a departure from the usual procedure of officially greeting a visiting defense minister with a ceremony at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv.

Israeli officials plan to stress the Iranian backing of Islamic terror and urge the British defense chief to agree to transfer his country's technology in the field of counterterrorism.

The two countries have been holding a strategic dialogue, headed by the director-generals of their defense ministries. The forum has already met twice.

Britain lifted its 27-year-old weapons embargo on Israel in 1994 and since then Israeli companies have sought to enter the lucrative British defense market.

So far, there have been some successes. TAAS has obtained a contract for \$60 million to supply bombs to the British Army. Rafael is competing to sell its Popeye air-to-ground missile. Both Elbit and Israel Aircraft Industries are also in the bidding war, with the former offering radar and the latter unmanned air reconnaissance vehicles.

Arafat condemns raids on Lebanon

PALESTINIAN President Yasser Arafat condemned the air and artillery strikes on Lebanon saying they would affect Middle East peace moves.

"We condemn completely these attacks and we support our brothers in Lebanon in all that they are facing," Arafat said yesterday during Easter Palm Sunday celebrations in self-ruled Gaza.

Arafat said the raids "will affect the peace process."

Arafat's Palestinian Authority said after its weekly cabinet meeting on Saturday that Israel was violating the regional peace process by striking at Lebanon. (Reuters)

Farrakhan feared assassination in Israel

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

LOUIS Farrakhan, the American Black Muslim leader whose recent trip to Libya drew fire from the US government, said he did not go to Israel on his regional tour because of the danger of assassination.

Farrakhan, in an interview with the CBS news magazine 60 Minutes, scheduled to be broadcast last night, said his activism has angered the political establishment and elements in the US government may be plotting to kill him.

"There's also the possibility of being assassinated overseas," Farrakhan said, according to an interview transcript. "I don't think Israel would be the best place for me to be at this time, considering the view that most Jews have of Louis Farrakhan."

Now the leader of the Nation of Islam, a Black Muslim organization with an estimated 30,000 members, Farrakhan has been notorious for his vicious attacks on Jews as "blood suckers" and slave traders.

A one-time calypso singer, he gained international prominence last October by leading the Million Man March of black men in Washington.

Farrakhan told CBS that there was an attempt to silence him after a string of public pronouncements that have been interpreted as antisemitic and anti-white.

The US State Department accused him of "cavorting with dictators" in Libya, Iran and Iraq, after Farrakhan toured 20 nations in Africa and Middle East in February. He reportedly left Libya with a pledge from Muammar Gaddafi for \$1 billion in financial support. The Justice Department is investigating whether Farrakhan should be deemed a "foreign agent."

During his trip, the official Libyan news agency, JANA, reported that Farrakhan and Gaddafi had agreed to work together to mobilize "oppressed blacks, Arabs, Moslems and Red Indians" in the United States.

With deep sorrow, we mourn the passing of

ERIC LUCAS OBE

The funeral will take place at Herzliya Cemetery tomorrow, Tuesday, April 16, at 12 noon.

Wife: Esther Lucas
Sons: Yonny and Renana Lucas
Shmullik Lucas
Grandsons: Nimrod and Noam Lucas

The British Ollm Society
mourns the passing of

ERIC LUCAS OBE 7th

a former Chairman, who devoted his life to the cause of Zionism and the strengthening of Israel, through his many years of work in immigrant absorption.

We extend sincere condolences to all the family

Our dear father and husband

ROBERT MALCOLM CARR

has passed away.

The funeral will take place tomorrow, Tuesday, April 16, at 1:00 p.m., at Eretz Hahelm Cemetery, Beit Shemesh.

Wife: Anita Carr
Children: Danielle and Mark Lawrence
Valerie Carr
Ben Carr

Shiva at Shmuel Gonen 48/1, Givat Sharett, Beit Shemesh.

We express our deep condolences to our friend and colleague

Shoshana Weinstein

and family, on the tragic, untimely death of her beloved husband, their father and grandfather

YITZHAK WEINSTEIN

who has died of injuries sustained in a terrorist attack.

The Cardiology Institute
Hadassah Medical Center, Jerusalem

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
mourns the passing of
MARCEL BLEUSTEIN-BLANCHET
Doctor of Philosophy Honoris Causa of the University
a dedicated friend and benefactor
and extends sincere condolences to the family.
Dr. Avishay Braverman, President

Desirée and Yossi Carmel
and Shai and Rivi
mourn the loss of
MORRIS LEIGH
A beloved friend and devoted supporter of Israel
and extend sincere condolences to dear
Manja and the family.

MORRIS LEIGH
Beloved husband of Manja,
father, grandfather,
great-grandfather
and friend
passed away
on April 11, 1996,
at prayer
in synagogue in England.
He will be greatly missed
by everyone who knew him.

THE CENTER FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM IN JERUSALEM
2 Agon Street, Jerusalem
Tel. 02-265896, Fax: 02-234127
PROJECT ODED
Yom Hashlosh Program
Tuesday, April 16, 1996 (27 Nissan 5756)
9:00 a.m. Introduction - Rabbi Edward S. Bogum
9:15 a.m. Liturgy Responds to Crisis & Tragedy -
Rabbi Fred Benjamin
10:45 a.m. Elie Wiesel: The Problem of Faith After The
Holocaust - Rabbi Yehiel Graninmann
12:15 p.m. Conclusion

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(DO NOT INCLUDE HOLIDAYS)

Meretz blasts NRP call to mobilize Hesder soldiers for its campaign

MERETZ campaign chairman Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein yesterday blasted the National Religious Party's intention to use hundreds of soldiers from the hesder yeshivas in the party's election campaign.

MICHAL YUDELMAN

gathering last Thursday, to mobilize all their soldier-students to the election campaign. Rubinstein stressed that the hesder yeshivas are a state institution and an inseparable part of the Israel Defense Forces. They are not the property of the NRP, he added, noting "this attitude clarifies how dangerous it would be to entrust the Education portfolio to the NRP."

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres met with the Labor Party's campaign heads yesterday, and it was decided to suspend most election activity until the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath.

MICHAL YUDELMAN

Peres and the campaign managers agreed that as long as military activity is in process, there is no place for electioneering in the media, especially not aggressive propaganda against Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu. Labor's ministers refrained from any campaign-related statements to the media and went about their ministries' business, concentrating on relieving the plight of the residents in the North.

Most ministers agree that Peres's functioning as prime minister and defense minister speaks for itself. Labor leaders had expected the Likud to lower its campaign profile as well, and some Labor ministers criticized the Likud's decision to continue with its anti-Peres propaganda, at a time when national unity is of the essence. They were referring to the series of ads published by the Likud under the slogan, "I am disappointed by Labor."

against the Likud.

In another development, Labor campaign sources blasted the violence of Likud activists against Labor activists during the Mimouna celebration in Jerusalem and in the Ramat Gan National Park. Party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli noted that despite the escalating violence, "Netanyahu remains silent. His lack of experience does not exempt him from the results of his silence."

Leila Khaled denied entry after refusing to renounce terrorism

JON IMMANUEL

LEILA Khaled, who once was foiled as she tried to hijack an El Al plane, was foiled again as she tried to enter Israel to participate in the planned meeting of the Palestine National Council.

Khaled, a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, was overpowered by Israeli security guards who sat on her after she pulled out a grenade on an El Al flight to London in 1970. Her partner in the hijacking, a Nicaraguan, was shot dead. Yesterday, she said, "Over my dead body," when informed on the Jordanian side of the Allenby Bridge that she would have to sign a statement saying she opposes terrorism if she wanted to cross into the Palestinian autonomous areas.

Palestine Radio stated later in the day that the Israeli conditions had prevented Khaled and other PNC members from attending the meeting designed to change the Palestinian Covenant, and were therefore in violation of the peace process.

Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat scheduled the 460-member PNC meeting for April 22 in Gaza, but it may take place in Cairo if a substantial number of members, 86 at the last count, are prevented from attending. It could also be postponed, said acting PNC chairman Salim Zaanoun.

Bus bombing victim laid to rest

HERB KEINON

YITZHAQ Weinstein, the 59th victim of the recent wave of suicide bomb attacks, was buried in Jerusalem yesterday. Weinstein, 53, a resident of Ma'aleh Adumim, died Saturday night at Hadassah University Hospital, Ein Karem, of wounds suffered from the first No. 18 bus attack in Jerusalem on February 25. He was hospitalized in intensive care since the blast, and never regained consciousness. Hundreds of people attended Weinstein's funeral. He was buried at Har Hamanachot in Jerusalem.

Weinstein, who managed the meat department at the Kiryat Hayovel SuperSol, immigrated with his family in 1979 from New York. After living first in the absorption center in Ashdod, and then Elazar in Gush Etzion, Weinstein moved to Ma'aleh Adumim in 1983. "He immigrated because of idealism," said his son, Joseph, 27. "He always wanted to come to Israel."

Joseph said that his father always rode the No. 18 bus to work. On the day of the blast he was supposed to work the afternoon shift, but switched to the morning shift in order to attend a Torah lecture that evening. Weinstein is survived by his wife Shoelma, and three children, Yaffa, 29, Joseph, and David, 12.

Tractor driver crushed to death

A 50-year-old man was crushed to death yesterday, when his tractor overturned as he was working on Moshav Petahya, near Ramle. Itim



Kiryat Shmona children staying at Netanyahu's Beit Feldman head to school in the city early yesterday. (Ailon Ron/Israel Sun)

Young helicopter pilots taste first action

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

A PAIR of Cobra attack helicopters slowly floated in over the hills and landed on an improvised helipad set up in a valley not far from the Lebanese border. They were refueled and armed, and another crew took them back into the war zone to hunt down any Hizbullah targets they could find, leaving behind young crewmen fresh from their first combat experience. "We were in the air when there was anti-aircraft fire in our direction," said Lt. R., after he returned from his first attack mission. Sprouts of blond stubble on his chin, he smiled sheepishly as he related his baptism of fire in Operation Grapes of Wrath.

"I didn't feel anything special. When you're in the cockpit on a mission, you're dealing with the mission. You're aware of the threat. It's not something that suddenly makes you afraid. We react as we were trained," he said. The US-made Cobra attack helicopters fly in pairs and are the IAF's main weapon against small targets like Katyusha launchers, vehicles, and armed gunmen. "The mission is to defend the settlements in the North. We are glad to have a part in this," R. said.

As he spoke, four more Cobras returned to the gravel-covered field. The pilots were exhausted, after spending three back-to-back two-hour missions over Lebanon, hitting Hizbullah targets across south Lebanon. The pilots take off seeking assigned targets, but are also on the lookout for anything that may appear. Half a dozen young pilots crowded onto a bus, beaming from a successful raid. Sweaty from two intense hours in the cockpit, they slapped each other on the back and argued over their actions before heading into a nearby hut for debriefing. "We attacked a terrorist vehicle west of Kiryat Shmona after they fired Katyushas, and a structure from which mortars were fired," said squadron leader Maj. A. "We destroyed both targets." He added that the missiles they fired, wire-guided TOWs, rarely ever miss. He said he regretted the death of innocent civilians, like the three children killed on Saturday when a helicopter blasted the ambulance they were riding in. A. 35, a veteran combat pilot, explained the strict process that has to be followed before they are allowed to open fire. "We are carrying out attacks on targets which we identify visually or targets which are certainly hostile."

Arafat critical of Brussels donor conference

JON IMMANUEL

PALESTINIAN Authority President Yasser Arafat said yesterday he was critical of the Brussels donor conference that took place over the weekend, saying "it showed lack of commitment to the peace process." and fell short of commitments made at the Sharm e-Sheikh conference. The conference, originally scheduled to boost the industrial infrastructure of the Palestinian Autonomy areas, was devoted to finding ways of easing the six-week closure.

Israel made some commitments to allow greater movement of products into and out of the PA. The donors pledged to accelerate their economic commitments. Future conferences will take place more frequently, a Foreign Ministry statement said. Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir headed the Israeli delegation to the talks.

Pets in North given free shelter

Not only children are being provided temporary homes away from the confrontation line. Let the Animals Live and the Dogli pet food company are cooperating in a joint effort to solve the problems of residents of the North who have to leave their homes and cannot take their pets with them. The animal welfare group has reached an agreement with the boarding kennels at the Ruppin Junction which will provide temporary shelter for dogs and cats. Details: 09-689696. Lia Collins

Bank Leumi le-Israel B.M. (Incorporated in Israel)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF ORDINARY STOCK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Bank will be held at its Registered Office, 24-32 Yehuda Halevi Street, Tel Aviv, on Wednesday, 8th May, 1996 immediately after the Ordinary General Meeting convened at 10.00 a.m. that day, for the purpose of approving the resolutions concerning authorisation of the holding of office and disclosure by Officers, according to the text submitted to the General Meeting.*

A member entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote on his or her behalf. A proxy need not be a member of the Bank. Tel Aviv, 15th April, 1996

By Order of the Board Jennifer Janes, Adv. Secretary

* The resolutions concerning the holding of office and disclosure by Officers may be examined at the offices of the Secretariat of the Bank at the Bank's Registered Office, 24-32 Yehuda Halevi Street, Tel Aviv, during ordinary business hours.

bank leumi בנק לאומי

Bank Leumi le-Israel B.M. (Incorporated in Israel)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF ORDINARY STOCK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 45th ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Bank will be held at its Registered Office, 24-32 Yehuda Halevi Street, Tel Aviv, on Wednesday, 8th May, 1996 at 10.00 a.m. for the following purposes:

1. Receiving and considering the Financial Statements and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors for the year ending 31st December 1995;
2. Considering the interim dividend paid on 21st December 1995 as the final dividend for 1995;
3. Electing Directors retiring under the Articles and offering themselves for re-election;
4. Approving Directors' fees and attendance fees for both regular and other meetings, including those for the Directors from Among the Public;
5. Electing Auditors and authorizing the Audit Committee to fix their remuneration.

A member entitled to attend and vote may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote on his or her behalf. A proxy need not be a member of the Bank. Tel Aviv, 15th April, 1996

By Order of the Board, Jennifer Janes, Adv. Secretary

bank leumi בנק לאומי

Israel turning to laser project for help against Katyushas

STEVE RODAN

SEVERAL weeks after they played down the project, Israeli defense officials are urging a stepped-up effort to complete a laser system capable of destroying short-range rockets such as the Katyushas now being fired from south Lebanon. Israeli defense sources said the completion of the Nautilus project has now been added to the shopping list being prepared by Prime Minister and Defense Minister Shimon Peres when he arrives in the US at the end of the month. In February, Israeli officials sought to minimize their involvement in the successful test of Nautilus's laser, which destroyed an incoming Katyusha rocket. The officials said the program was based on US technology with Israel being brought in only over the last year, largely to win congressional support for the continuation of Nautilus.

Israel and the US an operational laser interception system could be developed within the next two years. The problem, Israeli officials said, is that the Pentagon is little interested in Nautilus. It has not budgeted any money for fiscal 1997 despite Israel's willingness to invest \$20 million for speeded-up development of the program. The IDF has introduced advanced technology in its current campaign against Hizbullah's Katyusha attacks. One is radar that can provide artillery batteries and the Air Force with exact locations of where Katyushas are being launched seconds after they are spotted. Defense sources say the radar enabled the IDF to strike at several Katyusha batteries. Moreover, the Air Force has also been using guided air-to-surface missiles to strike at Hizbullah targets in south Beirut. One missile traveled past several buildings, including a hospital, before it struck its target, a Hizbullah office located in a large building. But the latest wave of Katyusha attacks on northern Israel has turned the Nautilus into a priority, defense sources said. They said with a concerted effort by

Peres sends holiday greetings to Druze soldiers

Defense Minister Shimon Peres yesterday sent a message of greeting to all Druze soldiers on the occasion of the Nebi Shueib holiday. "The partnership between us is a true partnership," he said, "one of war and blood, of peace and hope; one that has succeeded through the most difficult trials in our country's history." Jerusalem Post Staff

The Jewish National Fund of America welcomes Jim Lebenthal to Israel. we appreciate his support, his energy, and his commitment to Israel and to the JNF. Alan Freidberg Regional Director Bertram L. Podell Regional President Jewish National Fund of America Greater New York Region 964 Third Avenue New York, NY 10155 212-751-4848

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'Return to Life' theme of Holocaust Remembrance Day

THE rate of marriages and births in displaced persons camps after the Holocaust was surprisingly high, and psychologists believe that this was an affirmation of the Jews' will to continue living, Yad Vashem chairman Avner Shalev said yesterday.

This year's Holocaust Heroes and Martyrs Remembrance Day, which opens with a state ceremony tonight, will celebrate this



Menahem Sharon

unrelenting determination of the survivors to rehabilitate their lives and reaffirm their Jewish identity. Its theme will be "Return to Life."

The six people chosen to kindle the beacons symbolizing the six million who perished participated in the major events of the post-war period - the return to their homes, the search for their loved ones, and the attempt to rebuild their lives until renewed signs of anti-semitism appeared.

They also participated in the initiatives of the youth movements, the partisans, and the ghetto fighters to organize the aliyah of survivors and in meetings with members of the Jewish Brigade and



Rafael Blumenfeld

emissaries from Israel. The first torch - in memory of those who perished in the ghettos, the camps, and the death marches - will be lit by Menahem Sharon. Born in Poland in 1925, Sharon lost his parents and two brothers, but succeeded in surviving in the Lodz Ghetto until it was destroyed. After being sent to Auschwitz, he escaped to the forests, where he was liberated by the Red Army.

Sharon was a founder of the escape movement, which helped tens of thousands of Jews to forge documents and attempt to reach Palestine.

He organized an escape point on the Czech-Polish border and devoted three years to the cause.

BATSHEVA TSUR

He later worked for the Jewish Agency, and the Defense and Foreign ministries.

Rafael Blumenfeld, born in Poland in 1921, will light the second beacon in memory of those who were murdered when they returned to their original homes after the war. Blumenfeld was one of 2,000 youths who survived the Kielec Ghetto by digging graves and other forced labor.

After being interned in Germany, he made his way back to Poland, where he worked as a youth leader. In the 1946 Kielec pogrom, he was severely injured and on his recovery, decided to make aliyah. He settled at Kibbutz Tel Yitzhak and for 35 years was principal of the Nitzanim youth village.

The Jews who fought with the Allied forces will be honored with the third beacon, to be lit by Martin Hauser. Born in 1913 in Berlin, Hauser escaped to Palestine in 1933 and seven years later volunteered for the Royal Air



Martin Hauser

Force. In 1944, he was sent to Italy with the RAF intelligence branch, where he began collecting information about Jewish survivors.

His commanders turned a blind eye, and Hauser began providing material help to the survivors and put them in touch with the Jewish Brigade, which had arrived in Italy. He was instrumental in helping Miriam Hirschler, born in Romania in 1932, will light the

fourth beacon in memory of the 1.5 million children killed in the Holocaust.

Hirschler's parents were mur-



Miriam Hirschler

dered by the Nazis when she was 9, and she managed to hide with an elderly couple who nursed her while she had typhoid fever. They also helped her trace an aunt and her younger sister with whom she was sent to an orphanage.

In 1946, she left for Palestine, but her ship was turned back by the British, and they were sent to a camp in Cyprus, until she was permitted to settle here a year later.

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David Fur

Those who attempted to escape but failed will be remembered with the fifth beacon. It will be kindled by David Fur, who was active in the Shavli Ghetto in Lithuania. He was sent to Dachau and survived the death march only to face a death from typhus.

In a DP camp, Fur met members of the Jewish Brigade and became active in a Zionist youth movement, serving as a leader in Poland. He brought a group of 80 youth illegally to Palestine on a ship which was ordered by the British to go to Cyprus.

Later, Fur settled on Netzer Sireni and was sent abroad as an



Tzipora Hasifri

emissary. He has been involved in numerous Jewish Zionist education projects.

The Righteous Among the Nations who perished while trying to help Jews will be honored with the sixth torch. It will be kindled by Tzipora Hasifri, born in Poland in 1924, whose family perished in the forests and who was hidden, together with other Jews, by 19 non-Jewish families.

Together with her husband, Hasifri later went through Europe searching for Jewish orphans and organized a youth village where children could live after the war. There they gave them a Jewish and Zionist education and a feeling of home until they were brought to Israel.

Queen Elizabeth's youngest son, who has written and produced a two-part documentary on his great-uncle, said that far from collaborating with the Nazis the duke only met Hitler in Germany in a bid to persuade him not to wage war.

"The duke was not involved with Hitler. He met him in an attempt to avoid war," Prince Edward told a news conference after a screening of the documentary.

"The duke may have been awkward, selfish and intransigent to deal with, but there's no evidence that he would ever betray his country."

The number of job-seekers applying to the Employment Service dropped by 7,300 last month, from 110,400 to 103,100. Taking seasonal factors into consideration, the drop was only 2,000, from 107,500 to 105,500, a 1.8 percent decrease.

Job-seekers down slightly in March

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THE PALESTINIANS BETWEEN TERRORISM AND STATEHOOD...



Pinhas Inbari's book provides an in-depth account of the current Israel-Palestinian peace process, including developments in the Israeli-occupied territories, and the internal struggles within the PLO and between the PLO and its adversaries.

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Bomb kills six at hospital in Pakistan

SIX people died and more than 30 were wounded when a powerful bomb went off yesterday at a cancer hospital built by former Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan, police and hospital sources said.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto blamed unspecified "terrorists" for the blast at the outpatient department of the Shaikat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Center outside Lahore, capital of the central province of Punjab.

Bhutto visited the hospital and later told reporters: "We condemn whoever has done this act of terrorism," adding: "No mercy will be shown to those engaged in violence."

Officials of a bomb disposal squad later said they had yet to determine whether a bomb or something else caused the 12:30 p.m. blast apparently in an air conditioning duct.

But Imran told reporters it was a bomb attack aimed at frightening him into giving up his social welfare aims but declined to say who could have done it.

"I want to tell those who want to scare me that neither I will be scared nor I will turn back," he said. "I will move forward with greater determination."

The blast occurred only a day after Imran, a critic of Bhutto's government, said he was consulting close aides about launching a new political party.

Bhutto, in a statement quoted by the state radio, said that "terrorists involved in the incident will not be spared."

Opposition leader Nawaz Sharif accused the gov-

AURANG ZEB LAHORE, Pakistan

ment of failing to maintain law and order.

Two men and a child were burnt to death at the hospital's outpatient department, police said. Another child injured by the blast died on the way to another hospital and two other injured died later, doctors said.

They said 34 other people were injured, 10 of them critically. Most were either patients or their attendants.

"I heard a heavy blast and after that there was smoke all around," said one witness. "It appeared as if the whole building had been blown up," she added.

Other witnesses said the blast shattered doors, windows and the air conditioning system at the outpatient department.

The state radio quoted Punjab province governor Raja Saroop Khan as blaming "anti-social elements" who he said wanted to disturb peace.

He asked police to submit a report to him about their investigations within 24 hours.

Imran, whose marriage last year to a British heiress, Jemima Goldsmith, caused a furor at home and abroad, has built the hospital through donations. It is named after his mother who died of cancer.

Britain's Princess Diana visited the hospital last February to help Imran raise funds for it.

Imran, under whose captaincy Pakistan won the cricket World Cup in 1992, opposes Bhutto's ruling Pakistan People's Party and the main opposition Pakistan Moslem League party.

(Reuters)

Russian troops begin Chechen pull-out today

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia will start a gradual withdrawal of some of its troops from rebel Chechnya today under a peace plan announced by President Boris Yeltsin, his chief commander in the region said.

The Kremlin's national security adviser, Yuri Buturin, flew into the regional capital Grozny yesterday to supervise the plan, under which troops will be withdrawn only from peaceful areas of Chechnya and many soldiers will stay on in areas where fighting with separatist rebels is continuing.

Lt-Gen. Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, commander of joint Russian forces in Chechnya, said the partial pull-out would be made in three stages over the rest of this

year, but he made clear it could be suspended if fighting worsened.

"The withdrawal of some federal troops to Chechnya's administrative borders will start on April 15," Inter-Tass news agency quoted Tikhomirov as saying in Grozny on Saturday.

"However, if the situation gets more complicated, the order may be given to these units to stabilize the situation in the republic," Interfax news agency quoted him as saying.

Buturin planned to spend two days in Chechnya checking up on the implementation of the plan on the ground and meeting commanders, local politicians and some of the troops, Tass said.

Tikhomirov said 14 Defense

and Interior Ministry units and squads would pull out in the first stage before the end of May.

The second stage would last until October. The length of the final stage, when troops would be pulled back to permanent bases on the Chechnya border, would depend on the fighting situation.

Tass and Interfax reported more shooting during the night in Grozny and in Isa-Vedeno, Orekhovo and Stary Achkhoi in the southern half of the mainly Moslem region.

There were no details of casualties in the fighting. Moscow seems to be trying to confine the rebels to the southern mountains where separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev is in hiding.

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Film says Duke of Windsor not Hitler supporter

LONDON (Reuters) - Prince Edward on Friday defended the duke of Windsor, who gave up the British throne in 1936 for the woman he loved, saying his great-uncle was not an admirer of Hitler and would not have betrayed his country.

The former King Edward VIII, who took the title Duke of Windsor after his abdication, has been accused by historians and some former acquaintances of being a Nazi sympathizer, particularly in the light of a controversial 1937 meeting with the German dictator.

Queen Elizabeth's youngest son, who has written and produced a two-part documentary on his great-uncle, said that far from collaborating with the Nazis the duke only met Hitler in Germany in a bid to persuade him not to wage war.

"The duke was not involved with Hitler. He met him in an attempt to avoid war," Prince Edward told a news conference after a screening of the documentary.

"The duke may have been awkward, selfish and intransigent to deal with, but there's no evidence that he would ever betray his country."

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Peace-keepers reappear on streets of Monrovia

MONROVIA (Reuters) - African peacekeepers fanned out timidly yesterday to start taking back the streets of the Liberian capital Monrovia after a week of tribal militia killings and looting, residents said.

The United States wound up the first stage of its military rescue mission in which helicopters have ferried more than 1,500 foreigners from Monrovia in over 50 sorties.

As Monrovia's urban warfare narrowed to around the army barracks at the center of the violence, the evacuation switched to the sea, with a UN boat landing 300 people in Freetown.

A spokesman for ECOMOG, the 8,000-strong Nigerian-led peacekeeping force, said units had taken control of the central commercial district around Broad Street.

"ECOMOG is still pushing in, taking control of some of the areas," spokesman Frank Akinola said.

Negotiations were continuing to enable the force to cordon off the main army barracks where rebels are holed up along with 25,000 refugees and scores of hostages.

A hotel owner in the post-Mamba Point embassy and residential district said ECOMOG road blocks had appeared there and looting had substantially subsided.

"So far ECOMOG is on the streets but they are not really talking to any of the armed militiamen. They are just looking at them going by back and forth," he said.

"We are hoping that things will be under control," added the proprietor, whose hotel is close to looted United Nations agencies whose workers have largely fled.

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The number of job-seekers applying to the Employment Service dropped by 7,300 last month, from 110,400 to 103,100. Taking seasonal factors into consideration, the drop was only 2,000, from 107,500 to 105,500, a 1.8 percent decrease.

Tim

THE PALESTINIANS BETWEEN TERRORISM AND STATEHOOD...

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Chicago's Sears Tower loses ranking as world's tallest building

CHICAGO (Reuters) - In a battle of skyscrapers driven more by ego than sense, Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Towers were declared the world's tallest buildings on Friday by a committee of experts meeting in the shadow of the previous title-holder.

In a unanimous vote, members of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat - arbiters of such matters - ruled that Chicago's 110-floor Sears Tower had lost its 22-year title of world's tallest.

Sears Tower supporters said the builders of Malaysia's Petronas Towers had cheated by topping the 88-floor towers with 155-foot (47.2-meter) steel spires to reach a record-breaking height of 1,483 feet (452 meters).

Under such criteria, they argued, Sears Tower should add the 55-foot (16.8-meter) mounds of its television antennas to its 1,450 feet (442 meters).

"The mounds don't count," the committee's chairman, Lehigh University engineer Lynn Beedle told a news conference, holding fast to criteria that excludes television antennas.

"Sears will still hold titles to the largest tall building, the building with the highest occupied floor, and the longest elevator ride," Beedle said.

In any case, the Malaysian towers will likely hold the title for only a few years, when the planned 1,509-foot (460 meter) Shanghai World Financial Center yanks it away from China.

The committee decided the issue based on criteria created with the help of Sears Tower's designer, Fazlur Khan, and going back 60 years, when New York's Empire State Building and Chrysler Building battled over the crown, Beedle said.

US buildings have held the title of world's tallest at least since the Woolworth Building was completed in New York in 1913, and 60 of the 100-tallest buildings erected or under construction are in the United States. Three of the tallest 10 are in Chicago.

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Stage: The love that Deri not speak its name

ARYE Elias is a happy man. All the years in which the 75-year-old was cold-shouldered by the theater establishment mean nothing when he climbs onto the Cameri Theater stage to play Haham Attiya, the Sephardi sage of *Tikkun Hatzot* (Midnight Prayer).

The posters and the flyer for the play show him wearing the embroidered robes and signature dark glasses of Sbas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, but the Cameri Theater disclaims any intended reference to the Sephardi sage, or to his Ashkenazi rival, Rabbi Eliezer Schach.

Nor is the bearded, bespectacled young man between them meant to be Shas party head MK Aryeh Deri.

The Cameri says it can do nothing if the press suggests, as it has done, that the play is a kind of docudrama on the rise and implicit fall of Deri. But *Tikkun* authors Rami

Danon (who's also the director) and Amnon Levi refute any connection between current political realities and the play, and so do the principals: Elias, Yossi Graber (who plays Rav Shtadi), and Yoram Hattab (who plays Bearke).

Bearke is the name given to young Moroccan Dov Pinbasi at Shtadi's Bnei Brak yeshiva, where he's sent by his poor family to get an education. At the yeshiva, Bearke and his other Sephardi schoolmates are the butt of slurs, jokes and abuse from their Ashkenazi peers.

However, the brilliant, restless and ambitious Bearke is more than a match for his tormentors. To achieve his aims of getting some real power and funds into Sephardi hands, Bearke must effect an alliance between Shtadi and Attiya, who loathe each other. With this powerful pair behind him, Bearke becomes an MK and a minister. But then he goes too far. "Naturally the Deri/Bearke

association will come to people's minds in the first few minutes," says Hattab, "but then the story will take them to another place."

And Elias says that "the audience will identify with one side or the other because this play is its own life and experiences. We're still in the middle of this conflict."

"This conflict" and the search for an identity it engenders, its authors insist, is at the heart of *Tikkun Hatzot*. The conflict is the Ashkenazi-Sephardi ethnic divide and the search for his identity is Bearke's.

There haven't been many plays dealing with Sephardim. Two exceptions are Shmuel Hasfari's *The King*, which tells the story of the late singer Zohar Argov; and Yossi Alfi's story of Iraqi Jewry *One-Way Ticket*, which starred Elias in what was virtually an autobiographical role.

Wealthy Jewish boys in pre-World War II Baghdad did not

become actors. But Elias was stage-mad and went on to become the only Jew in the Baghdad Stage Academy. He was also an active Zionist, which was risky in postwar Baghdad. In 1947, hidden in a truck, he evaded the secret police and escaped from the country.

But when he arrived here, the then-predominantly Ashkenazi theaters slammed their doors in his face. He was a "Frank," the derogatory term used by Ashkenazim for Jews from Arab-speaking countries.

"I feel," he says, "as though I have a part of myself in Haham Attiya. They shut his mouth, and stand in his way as if to say Sephardi values are unimportant."

Tikkun cowriter and director Danon, who is 52, agrees. He arrived with his parents from

Morocco when he was five, grew up in Haifa's then-notorious Wadi Nisnas, and "never experienced any discrimination. But I realized very fast that to grow up and succeed I had to learn the rules of the dominant culture."

"To a certain extent Bearke's story is my story in that I paid the price of alienation from my home by going to a world [the theater] whose very existence had no precedent in my family and I couldn't talk of it with them."

The cowriter, journalist Amnon Levi, who is 12 years younger than Danon and Israeli-born, explains that "there's been a lot written about the deprived Sephardi, but *Tikkun Hatzot* talks about success, and success is tricky because you always give something of yourself in return. Bearke gives his past and his family."

"I did the same for years. I pushed my [Syrian] origins aside and now I need to recon-

nect, to get close to my family again. If I'd experienced discrimination growing up, I don't think that I could have written the play as I did."

As for actor Yoram Hattab, a 29-year-old from an Algerian family, the play is "a conflict of cultures with a man torn between them in the middle, because neither side is willing to compromise, and that's universal. Bearke wants to create something new, to bring extremes together, and they don't let him because each side is afraid of losing its identity."

The character Bearke is a Moroccan who grows up as a Lithuanian-school haredi. Hattab is a totally secular Israeli for whom the task of creating his character "wasn't to approach the religious world from its external symbols but from inside, from the essence of faith. It's from that essence that their rules are created, and if we judge that essence by our secular standards, then we miss the

point." To get some insight into his role as Shtadi, Yossi Graber spent a day at Rabbi Schach's Ponivezh Yeshiva in Bnei Brak. He came away with the conviction "that they really believe and there's no hypocrisy there. I asked the Sephardi rabbi who runs the high school how he relates to Rabbi Schach's remark [in the 1992 election campaign] that the Sephardi Jews are 100 years behind."

"There was a long silence and then he said: the head of the yeshiva cannot be wrong. From this I took what I use in the play, and I hope that the audience will quickly get beyond the party politics to see the strength of the passions real believers have."

The Cameri's insinuating posters "may help the box office, but they don't have much to do with the play. Fortunately, the audience is much cleverer and more observant than most of the theater establishment gives it credit for."

Say it ain't so Sydney Pollack

FILM REVIEW
ADINA HOFFMAN

SABRINA

★★

Directed by Sydney Pollack. Written by Barbara Benedek and David Rayfel from a script by Samuel Taylor, Billy Wilder and Ernest Lehman. Hebrew title: *Sabrina*. 128 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.

Linus Larrabee — Harrison Ford
Sabrina Fairchild — Julia Ormond
David Larabee — Greg Kinnear
Maude Larabee — Nancy Marchand

DUE to her long wavy hair, her big teeth and familiar first name, the young English actress Julia Ormond has already been typecast as a slightly more refined, British Julia Roberts. It smarts.

Ormond has more than a pretty face and a winning personality: She's a talented performer, and as we watch her struggling to charm her way through yet another sweet nothing of a role (she played bland ingenues in both *Legends of the Fall* and *First Knight*), we can feel her frustration. She seems too wise and emotionally restless to be playing these fair maidens—to say nothing of impersonating other movie legends.

Unfortunately for all involved, that is exactly what's required of her in *Sabrina*, Sydney Pollack's tepid remake of Billy Wilder's 1954 Cinderella story about a chauffeur's daughter infatuated with a Long Island playboy. Here, Ormond's saddled with the impossible task of being Audrey Hepburn, who played the title character the first time around.

Her hair cropped to a pixie cap of curls, she tries her hardest to look frail and gaminé, but the effort just backfires. Not only does Ormond make an unconvincing Audrey Hepburn, in *Sabrina* she makes a fairly feeble Julia Ormond.

The actress herself, though, is hardly to blame for this warmed-over excuse for romantic comedy. Pollack should have known better than to crank out a more than two-hour-long trifle—which may sound like a contradiction in terms but is, alas, an accurate description of this supremely silly ordeal. The script is rife with anachronistic hokum about an inexperienced ugly duckling who, in her own haekneyed words, "finds herself in Paris."

After a year abroad, working as a fashion photographer's assistant, eating couscous with her bare hands and listening misty-eyed to "La Vie en Rose" Sabrina returns to the mansion where her dad works. Needless to say, she now looks ravishing, adult and perfectly at ease in a low-cut evening gown.

Sabrina is a hopeless romantic, you see, and no matter how much cafe au lait she drinks or how often she strolls by the Seine, she



Pollack's remake of the 1954 Cinderella story, with Julia Ormond and Harrison Ford, is downright excruciating at times.

just can't get David Larabee (Greg Kinnear) out of her head. He's the younger and lazier of the two filthy rich brothers who employ her father and who throw huge Gatsby-esque shindigs on their sprawling estate. Not surprisingly, when she turns up in her glamorous new guise at the Larabee place, David, recently engaged to another multimillionaire, falls for her hard—as does his older, colder brother Linus (Harrison Ford), although he can't admit it.

After about half an hour of generic fairy-tale sparkle flots of candlelight, flowers and shimmering champagne) the film bottoms out on a ponderous set of far-fetched plot twists, designed to keep Sabrina and Linus out of

each other's arms until the final frames.

What takes them so long? A bit of flirtatious postponement is, of course, a crucial ingredient in any romantic comedy—but by the time this completely predictable ending is achieved, the magic of forbearance has long since given way to perversity. There's simply no reason for the lovers to prolong their self-denial. For the record, the problem may not rest entirely with the new version of the film: Humphrey Bogart, who played Linus in the original, allegedly accused Billy Wilder's three-year-old of having written the script.

In the Bogart role, Harrison Ford is just bizarre. Against all

odds, he seems to be trying to create a real, believable character for Linus, instead of the selfish, comic-book tycoon Pollack appears to have in mind. Although he's dressed in Richie Rich-styled bow ties and bowler hats, and asked to mug his way broadly through all sorts of outlandish situations, Ford insists, on acting, on edging his way dryly into the coked psyche of an anal workaholic, a man who's never had a friend or a crush.

But the part wasn't written to be played seriously, and Ford's maladjusted Linus, while intriguing, feels out of place in the movie's shallow scheme.

His performance seems muf-

fled and a bit creepy as a result, and as that big kiss finally rolls around, we begin to get antsy. It's not at all clear what Linus will do with Sabrina once he gets her alone.

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Violist who has it all trades it in for more

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

BY taking a leave of absence from the New York Philharmonic Orchestra has Gilad Karni taken leave of his senses?

The 27-year-old Israeli musician acknowledges that he's in an enviable position in the ranks of the NYPO's viola section. "I have friends who have gone through 40 auditions and still don't have a job, and I got one after my first professional audition," he said during a short visit back home.

"For the average American a post in a symphony orchestra will lead to marriage, buying a house in New Jersey, having a family car and then life would be beautiful."

Karni, who lives in Manhattan with his wife Jill, has wider aspirations, though. "I know that if I stay too long in an orchestra it will ruin me, it will take me backwards and not forward."

To avoid stagnation, starting in September Karni will be the principal violist of the Bamberg Symphony in Germany, for a year, with the option to return to the NYPO. Working in Bamberg will give Karni a lot more leisure time than he is used to.

"In New York the season is 42-43 weeks. In Bamberg it's 24, which means a lot of free time for solo performances and chamber music. It is also closer to Israel and all my family is here, so I think it will be good for me there. And the concertmaster in Bamberg, Kohi Rubinstein, is Israeli too."

One man who would like to see Karni back in New York is Kurt Masur, the NYPO music director. "Karni is an outstanding talent and I'm very glad to have him in the orchestra," said Masur when he was here last week to conduct the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

"He is a great musician and he is one of the more active players in the orchestra. As a human being he showcases great bonesty. He is one of the more uncomplicated persons in the orchestra."

Masur was on hand when Karni auditioned for the NYPO, after graduating from the Manhattan School of Music. "About one thousand violists auditioned. I made the second round which was in front of Masur, and began by playing the Bartok viola concerto. Halfway through I saw Masur smiling and I knew it would be fun. Later that night I was told I got the job."

In an age in which most musicians engage several agents, media consultants and press representatives, Karni does all this work from home. "I have a phone, a fax and a computer and I do it all with the help of my wife. Violists are not such a hot commodity in the classical music market and I haven't managed to find an agent yet. I hope one will come so that I will have more time for myself and the music."

In the course of this visit, Karni has performed several recitals with pianist Gila Goldstein and his aunt, soprano Gila Yaron.

There is one additional recital tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum. After that Karni plays Hindemith's *Der Schwanendreher* with the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba under the baton of Swiss maestro Urs Schelder in a series of concerts starting this Saturday.

And he plans to be back in Israel in the fall for the birth of his first child.

Will Karni ever make Israel his home once again?

"It's a subject I don't want to elaborate on too much. It's very complicated: who knows what the future holds for me? After all, I'm still very young. But I do remember that everything I have, everything I got is from here, from Israel."

"And yes I know it could be hard living in Germany as an Israeli. But I don't believe we should look back at the past, we must go on looking forward. That has always been my motto."

From Belarus and Berlin to Beit She'an

FOR the seventh year in a row, the magnificent Roman amphitheater at Beit She'an will play host to the Beit She'an Festival, this year from May 7-18.

The State Opera of Belarus at Minsk conducted by Alexander Anisimov presents Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* in a fully staged production. It's followed by Berlin's Komische Oper Dance Theater with *Oedipus the King* and *Petrushka* choreographed by KODT artistic director Jan Linkens to music by Stravinsky. Dance from a different culture will come from Malika Sarahahai and her Daraflana company from India.

And who'll be able to resist concerts from Yehuda Poliker singing songs from *The Child in You* and his

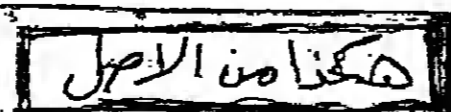
other best-selling albums, and Boaz Sharabi and friends. All of the above are at the Roman theater.

Another German company, named after its home city of Neustreitz, will present folk dances from all over the country at the Beit She'an community center.

There are also a number of free shows: the NIS 2 million budget is being subsidized by the municipality, the Emek Regional Council and the Cleveland Jewish Community.

Tickets from NIS 40 (German folk dance) to NIS 139 (*Eugene Onegin*) are on sale at all principal ticket agencies.

Helen Kaye



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Civilian torment

AS Israel's ambassador to the UN Gad Ya'acobi said yesterday, there is almost universal understanding in the world organization - at least in private conversations - for Israel's actions in Lebanon. Yet most governments publicly express growing dismay over the Grapes of Wrath operation, particularly when they receive news of civilian casualties. This is eminently understandable. No government can openly condone operations which cause civilian deaths.

For Israel, whose soldiers have often sacrificed their own lives to avoid inflicting civilian casualties, this is an agonizing problem. At the beginning of the current operation, the Lebanese inhabitants of Hizbullah-ruled areas were given deadlines - extended several times - to leave their villages and find shelter in safe zones. Specific warnings were also given regarding the direction and time of travel on designated roads in the area. Above all, the artillery and air strikes have been carefully and meticulously calibrated, and the firing directed with the most sophisticated electronic equipment, to ensure direct, surgical hits at military targets and strategic installations.

The trouble is that by its very nature, the nasty guerrilla war waged by Hizbullah makes civilian casualties inevitable. Like the PLO gunmen in Lebanon in the 1970s and 1980s, and the Arsh gangs under the British Mandate and during the War of Independence, the Hizbullah uses civilians as shields. In defiance of international conventions, it places its Katyusha launchers in schools and hospitals, hides its operational headquarters in homes, escapes punishment by retreating into populated areas, and even uses ambulances to move officers from the field of operations to safety. Under such circumstances occasionally hitting innocent civilians is unavoidable.

This does not mean that the suffering of civilians should be ignored. The army must faithfully continue its efforts to avoid miscalculations, and it must always give civilians a chance to escape the areas of conflict. But the blame for the civilian suffering on both sides must fall where it belongs: on Hizbullah's Syrian sponsors. One small signal from the Damascus regime, still professing to seek a comprehensive peace in the region, would put an end to civilian torment in an instant.

Darkest Africa

LIBERIA is Africa's oldest independent republic, which makes it all the sadder that by the end of the 20th century it has become the number one basket case on a continent that has more than its fair share of them. The first settlers arrived there from the United States in 1822, at a harbor later named for US President James Monroe when the country became independent in 1847. The name Liberia encapsulates the purpose of this American-created state - it was to be a new homeland of liberty for freed black slaves who wanted to return to their ancestral homeland. Its official language remains English, its currency the dollar.

The idea and the ideals were as noble as those behind the recreation of the Jewish homeland 101 years later, but there sadly the resemblance ends. Liberia is now a state that in reality exists only as lines on a map and it is impossible to see how it is going to be rebuilt.

Liberia set off on the wrong path almost from the beginning. It may have been understandable that the new immigrants, who had been less than nothing as slaves, were determined to become somebody now that they had their own country. But they had learned the wrong lesson from their old masters and quickly became the privileged elite lordling it over the backward indigenous tribes. In this century the longest period of stability Liberia has known was under the 27-year rule of President William Tubman, who died in 1971.

Unfortunately, Tubman's regime merely entrenched the upper-class status of those descended from the immigrants and their grip on wealth and power fueled the resentment of the indigenous majority. It was unsurprising that this majority welcomed the coup staged by an army sergeant, Samuel Doe, in 1980 when he assassinated Tubman's successor. Without democracy, Doe's era was doomed to be a false dawn, replacing the hegemony of an upper class with a slide into traditional African tribalism.

Doe's fate was sealed by a hastily rigged election in 1986 and growing civil unrest over increasing repression as Liberia became the Haiti of Africa. When the Libertian exile,

Charles Taylor, led a handful of guerrillas in from Ivory Coast in 1989, Doe's rotten edifice crumbled immediately and he was captured and tortured to death in a primitive witchcraft ritual. The United Nations, with its Somali peace effort falling apart, decided to test a new philosophy of encouraging regional powers to take responsibility for their own peacekeeping and so the Economic Community of West Africa States sent in a five-nation force (ECOMOG) to pacify Liberia.

It is an operation which has been inept, if possible, as the continent's main international forum, the OAU (Organization of African Unity). ECOMOG failed to disarm the growing number of disintegrating tribal factions involved in the civil war, and proved both unwilling and unable to enforce endless cease-fires and agreements reminiscent of Bosnia.

Last week's return to total anarchy in Monrovia has been as inevitable as the immediate reason for it was irrelevant - Taylor's abortive attempt to arrest an equally unpalatable rival warlord. This weekend's decision by some of the most tenacious international aid agencies to abandon Liberia is an indication of how desperately dangerous the capital has become - just one huge jungle, as one aid worker described it. Once again it is the United States, just after its recent support action in Taiwan, that has been left alone to rush to the scene and evacuate foreign citizens. Regional peacekeeping has failed, the OAU has failed, the United Nations has failed. The United States more and more resembles an international fire truck - rushing from Haiti, to Bosnia, to Cuba, from there to Taiwan and on to Liberia, as brush fires continue to break out across the globe.

It seems the international community is missing some alarm bells ringing unheeded. While the news is filled with optimism for "the coming new millennium" with its global markets, Asian tigers, information revolutions and new space stations, hardly anyone seems to be noticing that whole countries are dropping off the map, out of sight, or back in time to medieval barbarism. Liberia may have just joined them. Who knows for whom the bells toll next?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE KING DAVID HOTEL BOMB

Sir - Sraya Shapiro, in a review of events connected with the pre-state Black Sabbath, said by the British, states that in carrying out its operation against army headquarters located in the King David Hotel, the "IZL broke its coordination agreement with the Hagana" (March 31). That is not true. All studies of the incident, including the official Hagana History, note that the operation was authorized by the joint coordinating committee. The last contact between the Irgun and Moshe Sneh, Hagana National Commander, was on July 19, 1946. The latter, not for the first time, simply requested a delay of a few days. No information regarding Chaim Weizmann's opposition to the continuation of the United Resistance Movement was passed over. Three days later, according to plan, the Irgun destroyed the British Army command center, unfortunately, at a high toll in lives.

YISRAEL MEDAD
Shiloh.

'GOOD FENCES'

Sir - If building fences around Israel is a policy the government wants to pursue, then Ehud Barak and others should not quote the line from Robert Frost's great poem, *Mending Wall*, "Good fences make good neighbors." (as reported by David Makovsky on March 1). The point of the poem is exactly the opposite. In the first line, the poet says, "Something there is that doesn't love a wall." He then goes on to discuss with his neighbor the lack of logic in the idea of a wall. Any reasonably serious high-school student studying this poem learns that Frost disagrees with his neighbor who repeats the "Good fences..." line without understanding the poet's message. Robert Frost would be spinning his grave if he knew how his most famous poem is being interpreted. I suggest you print the entire poem so that it can be read and quoted as an argument against the "fence" policy.

SIDNEY KESSLER
Richmond, Virginia.

FALSE EXPECTATIONS

Sir - If the government would only make up its mind and make it clear that closure of the territories was for good, the "Palestinians" would begin to look elsewhere for employment. Some would return to the countries they came from, some to other Arab countries with sparse populations and some would join their brethren in Europe, America or Australia. I doubt if any would die of starvation. As it is, the government arouses expectations of reopening so that no one knows what to expect. This isn't good for anyone.

To make matters worse, the government talks of raising funds to invest in the territories. No one really knows if or when the funds will come and how much will be diverted on the way. One thing is pretty clear. It would take years to become a major source of employment. But it contributes to false expectations. Add to this the fact that the PLO raises hopes of a Palestinian state eventually "liberating" the whole of Palestine and taking over all the assets of the Jews enhances illusions of a golden future in the Land of Israel.

Why the government should want to raise expectations for the so-called Palestinians to settle in the Land of Israel is beyond me.

KENNETH L. COHEN
Jerusalem.

ORNITHOLOGY

Sir - Your reader from California, Mr. Irving Richards, is right about the Wall (Letters, April 11). However, his ornithology is wrong.

The pigeons there are actually vultures.

ASHER WEILL
Jerusalem.



A peace offensive

GERALD M. STEINBERG

THE current Israeli military action against Hizbullah targets in Lebanon does not, as conventional wisdom would have it, mark the end of the chances for peace with Syria and Lebanon. Indeed, the opposite would seem to be true. Effective Israeli use of force can not only bring about increased stability in the North, but also serve as a warning and deterrent to the Palestinians and Syrians, and reinforce the foundations of the Middle East peace process.

Throughout history, diplomatic negotiations and the use of force have always gone hand in hand. Israel's military successes in the 1948 war forced the Arab states to negotiate cease-fire agreements with the Zionist enemy they had vowed to crush.

Israel's victories in 1956 and 1967, and, most importantly, the IDF's success in defeating the Egyptian and Syrian armies despite initial setbacks in 1973, convinced Anwar Sadat that Israel was not going to be defeated, at least not in the short term. This led directly to Sadat's decision to travel to Jerusalem, the Camp David talks, and the peace treaty.

Similarly, during the 1950s and 1960s, the disproportionate Israeli reprisals to terrorist attacks from Jordan, the Gaza Strip, and Palestinian bases in the West Bank eventually brought this terror to a halt.

Israel's military response during the intifada in the late 1980s forced the PLO and Yasser Arafat to accept the need to negotiate with Israel, if only for a temporary respite. Arafat may not have changed his overall goal of destroying Israel, but as long as Israel continues to pose an over-

whelming military threat, the PLO's realistic options remain limited.

In this sense, the perceptions of Hizbullah's leadership regarding Israeli resolve and ability to use force have, at least until now, been very different. For many years, the radical Islamic groups in Lebanon have been able to attack Israel's

Negotiations and the use of force have always gone hand in hand

settlements in the North and military targets in the security zone, and provoke only a feeble Israeli response. Indeed, they were aware that in each of the previous attempts to end attacks from Lebanon, the IDF became easy targets. In Operation Litani (1978) and Peace for Galilee (1982), Israel's ground troops were eventually forced into a war of attrition.

In these poorly conceived operations, Israel's tremendous technological advantage was neutralized, and casualties continued to the point where they became unbearable. The same was true in the continuing operations in the security zone, despite the bombardment during Operation Accountability in 1993. Hizbullah, as well as Syria, concluded that Israel could be forced to withdraw from Lebanon, and that there was no need for political concessions and negotiations.

The operation dubbed Grapes of Wrath will, if it is continued long enough, change this perception. For the first time in many years, the IDF is using its overwhelming technological advantage to strike at Hizbullah bases and centers in Beirut and in areas under Syrian military protection.

The sporadic Katyusha attacks in response are doing little damage, and demonstrate Hizbullah's weakness. Just as Jordan realized in the 1950s and 1960s, the Lebanese government will also have to recognize that if it wants to continue its economic recovery, it will have to prevent the use of its territory as a base for terrorism. And in Syria, it is possible Assad will reconsider his policy of waiting for the Israel to capitulate completely and hand back the Golan Heights unconditionally.

The sight of IAF helicopter gunships, Hellfire missiles, and precision air strikes in Beirut will also not be lost on the Palestinians.

The threat of military action against Hamas bases and support centers in the areas under the control of the Palestinians suddenly became a realistic option when the IDF began offensive operations in Lebanon. The broad international support enjoyed by Israel, should also give Arafat pause.

Finally, there are lessons for Israeli leaders who deceived themselves into creating a mythical New Middle East, in which war and peace were totally disconnected. Without the threat of war, there will be no peace for Israel.

The writer is a Senior Research Fellow at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

This peace is killing us

URI AVNERY

REcently, I was walking along a street in Ramallah, when an elegant woman came out of a nearby store and called my name. She spoke fluent English and invited me to come into her store. We talked about the current situation, and she became more and more emotional. "I was all for peace!" she finished with tear-filled eyes. "and I supported Arafat wholeheartedly! But this peace is killing us! This closure is a disaster! Children don't have food. Sick people don't have medicine. We cannot get to Jerusalem, our center. I don't want to hear any more from Peres and Arafat! I was always opposed to violence, but if Hamas carries out an attack at this point, I'll be delighted! Maybe then the Israeli government will understand that it cannot break us by such cruel measures!"

The phrase "This peace is killing us" was already familiar to me as an Israeli right-wing slogan. But I was amazed to hear it from the mouth of this refined Palestinian woman. I had not understood that the results of the closure were quite so far-reaching and pernicious. The truth is that the word "closure" is a misnomer. In fact it is a siege, an unequivocal act of war that pits nation against enemy nation. Despite the reports of several devoted journalists, the Israeli public still has no idea of the results of this siege. Below is a partial list. The closure:

- has prevented the sick and dying from reaching hospitals in East Jerusalem and Israel, resulting in several deaths so far.
- has prevented family members from visiting their sick and dying loved ones hospitalized before the closure.
- has prevented vital medication from reaching the sick, mainly in Gaza.
- has prevented thousands of students in Gaza from reaching their universities in the West Bank.

- has prevented the majority of teachers who are residents of Palestinian-ruled territories from reaching Jerusalem schools, to such an extent that no studies are taking place in most classes.
- has prevented family members of prisoners and detainees from visiting their loved ones.
- has prevented tens of thousands

Every additional day of the cruel siege is an additional nail in the coffin of the peace process

of Christians and Moslems from reaching their holy sites in East Jerusalem.

It has virtually shut down the Israel-dependent Palestinian economy, as merchants cannot get to Jerusalem and Israel.

It has choked off the southern West Bank from the northern part, permitting traffic only on the winding, poorly-constructed bypass road.

It has prevented Gaza fishermen from going out to sea to earn their living and to supply staple food to destitute Gazans. And of course, most importantly -

It has prevented enormous numbers of Palestinian workers from earning their living - who together with their families number over a million souls, thus causing widespread hunger and malnutrition.

Every Palestinian knows that these are not just straightforward security measures. What security consideration cuts Gaza off from Israeli supplies of building materials, for example?

Meanwhile, even now, a member of Hamas wearing an Israeli army uniform and a kippa can penetrate into Israel. No, this is collective punishment, in the style of a commander who imposes punishment on his entire platoon when one of the privates makes trouble. The intention is to turn the platoon against the troublemaker and induce the other privates to make the errant soldier behave himself.

Unfortunately, employing such methods on an entire people is achieving the opposite result. The devastating effects of a prolonged closure destroyed any semblance of a peaceful atmosphere, which had reached a high point on the eve of Palestinian elections. The current mood is much worse than it was before the Oslo accords, due to anger and disillusionment.

The Palestinian public feels that the Gaza Strip has been turned into one large jail - as have the cities of the West Bank. In fact, an increasing number of Palestinians secretly, and in some cases openly, hope for additional terrorist attacks, in order to "show the Israelis."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has yielded to the mass hysteria nurtured by the media, and has laid this siege in order to soothe the Israeli public until the elections. He is liable to achieve precisely the opposite, causing irreparable damage to the prospects for peace and losing the elections while he is at it. Every additional day of the cruel siege is an additional nail in the coffin of the peace process.

The writer is a columnist for Ma'ariv.

Memories of 1981

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

IN two unpleasant ways, one is reminded of the situation in Israel on the eve of the 1981 elections: Katyushas fired on the Galilee on the one hand, and the violent reception accorded various Labor Party leaders at public events such as the Mimouna celebrations in Jerusalem.

With regard to the Katyushas, the physical resemblance is almost identical: wrecked apartments in Kiryat Shmona and elsewhere in the Upper and Western Galilee, wounded civilians and angry crowds demanding an appropriate Israeli reaction. However, the political situation is different. Those firing the Katyushas in 1981 are now, for better or worse, Israel's negotiating partners today, while the patrons of the Moslem fundamentalists who are today firing rockets from southern Lebanon were, back in 1981, less than two years in power in Teheran, and too involved in a bloody war, to have the time or resources to engage in subversion on an international scale.

Another difference is that in 1981, Israel had a government which believed that with a single military blow, one could stop the Katyushas falling on Kiryat Shmona. One year later it became embroiled in a Lebanese adventure which sought not only to remove the Katyushas from southern Lebanon, but also to entrench a puppet government in Beirut and get it to sign a "peace treaty" with Israel.

Today Israel has a government which understands the limits of military force, and knows that after a limited military operation - whose aim is to convey the clear message that Israel will not allow Hizbullah to terrorize its population or dictate its agenda - a peace settlement will have to be negotiated with the existing regimes in both Syria and Lebanon. It knows that a settlement with Beirut will not be attained without one first being reached with Damascus, and that a price will have to be paid.

NEXT MONTH, Israelis will have to decide whether they want to return to power, the two retired generals Ariel Sharon and Rafael Eitan, responsible for the 1982 fiasco, who are still unwilling to admit there was anything wrong with their basic thinking, or to let Labor inch its way toward a lasting settlement. Such an accord will not only normalize Israel-Lebanon relations, but remove Hizbullah from southern Lebanon by replacing them with the armed forces of a friendly neighbor, and thus enable the IDF to redeploy to the international border. Whether the price-Israel will be asked to pay for such a settlement will be acceptable to the majority of Israelis, will be determined after its terms are negotiated in a referendum.

The violent reception Labor

Next month, Israelis will have to decide whether they want to return to power the two retired generals Ariel Sharon and Rafael Eitan, responsible for the 1982 fiasco

leaders receive these days in certain locations is, of course, a totally different kettle of fish. The source of this violence, both in 1981 and today, is identical: the bullying element within the Likud which incites easily led crowds to boo, curse, hurl objects and raise fists. The Likud's responsible leaders did not initiate this in 1981 and are not initiating it now, but today as in 1981, they have not yet been heard to condemn it.

There is, however, a major difference between the phenomenon as it manifested itself 15 years ago and as it is today. Back in 1981, the violence was unpleasant, but everyone believed it could be contained. Today, after the killing of a Peace Now demonstrator, Emil Grunzweig, on February 10, 1983 and the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin on November 4, 1995, everyone knows where "innocent" incitement can lead to.

Furthermore, back in 1981, with the exception of Geula Cohen's Tehiya which was running for the first time, the Likud was Israel's most right-wing party. Today we have a whole garden full of "wild weeds" which has placed the Likud at the center of the political map, even though its positions have hardly changed.

No, today is not 1981, though the outcome of the elections could be identical in the sense that despite the lack of security, and contrary to what some opinion polls suggest, the electorate might well decide to give the ruling coalition another term in power.

The writer is a political scientist.

04/15/96

Face-Off

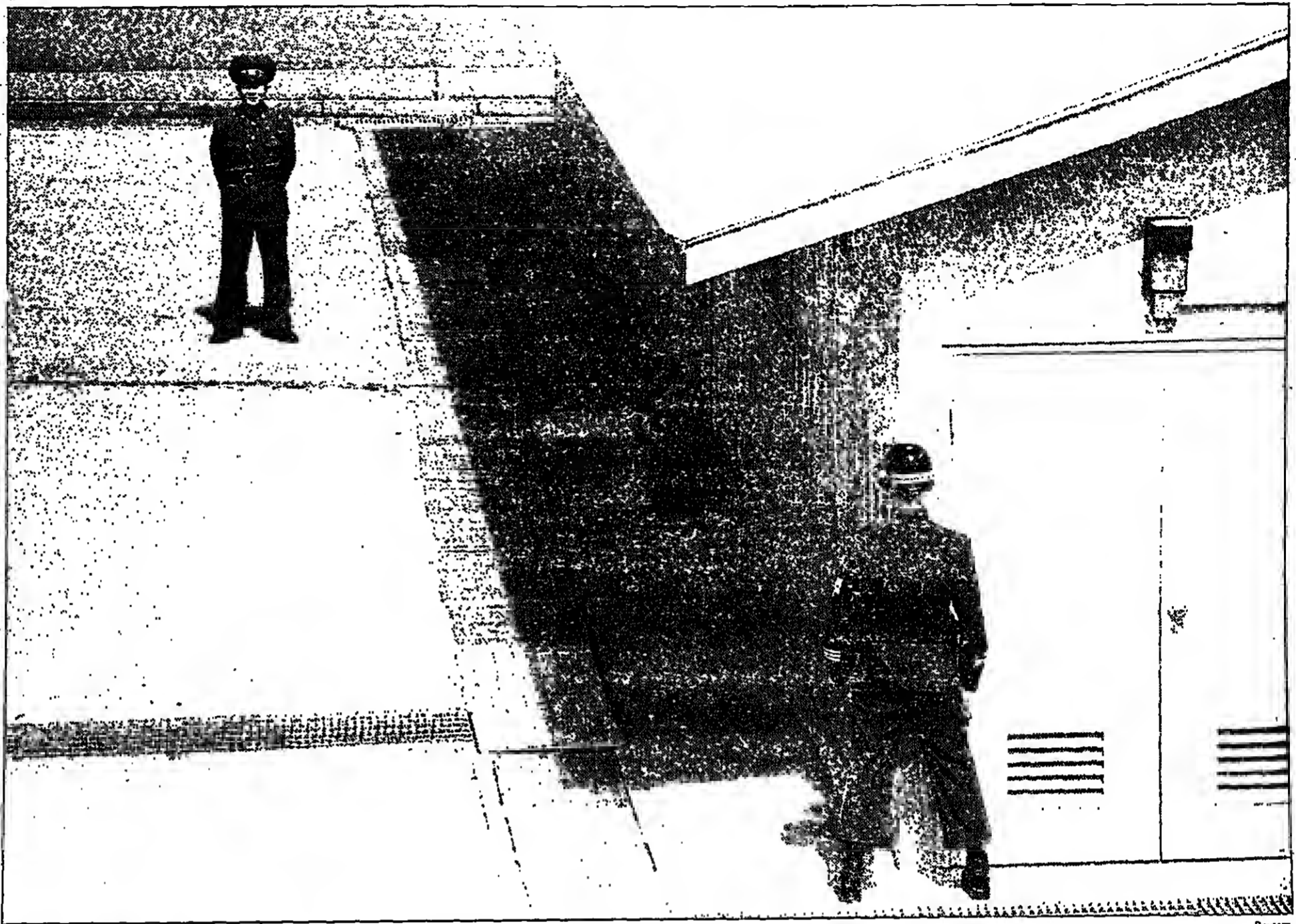
North Korea Wouldn't Invade the South, Would It?

By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

EVERY evening, South Korean soldiers rake some beautiful white beaches, smoothing out the sand from one end to the other. It is not to make it prettier, for no one is allowed in the area at night; the point is to be able to check for footprints in the morning to see if a new Korean War is breaking out.

These days, the beaches are being raked more carefully than ever. Three times this month, heavily armed North Korean troops entered the demilitarized zone between the two Koreas, violating the terms of the armistice that has kept the peace since the end of the Korean War.

The incursions have also triggered a furious debate within American intelligence circles. The clear majority view, and the one that most top American officials subscribe to, is that North Korea would not be so foolish as to launch a suicidal attack on the South. The minority view is at the other extreme: these Government analysts argue



A North Korean soldier faces his South Korean counterpart (foreground) across the demarcation line that runs through a building in the truce village of Panmunjom.

A frightening, if unlikely, scenario born of desperation.

that North Korea may be trying to desensitize the West to incursions in preparation for a major invasion in the coming months.

Yet even though policy makers subscribe to the majority view, and do not believe the North will attack, they worry enough that President Clinton has adjusted his schedule to extend talks with South Korean leaders during a visit to South Korea on Tuesday. While many believe that an invasion is highly unlikely, they also realize that they cannot afford to be wrong — and the starting point for North Korea watchers is that no one really knows what is going on there.

Run, DMZ

Everybody has a good reason for North Korea not invading: it would lose — although it is not clear whether the North realizes this. Motivations for why it might invade are trickier and mostly have to do with its disastrous economic situation. The fear is that North Korea might attack in a desperate gamble to avoid collapse, perhaps even to force negotiations with the United States leading to a peace treaty and normalized political and trade relations.

"We worry that in a very short period, this country will either collapse or take aggressive actions against the South in a desperate attempt to divert attention from its internal situation," Gen. Gary E. Luck,

the top American commander in South Korea, told Congress last month. "It is entirely possible that the leadership in Pyongyang is not, or will not remain, cohesive enough to make rational decisions."

For all the disagreement about the likelihood of war, there is a consensus about how it would begin. The North would infiltrate some of its 80,000-strong special forces into areas of South Korea far from the front lines, American and South Korean military

experts say. The commandos would arrive by hovercraft, light planes, submarines and boats, and that is why the South Koreans still rake some beaches to check for footprints — although these days they look more for radar images of infiltrators.

Havoc

These elite North Korean troops would proceed to attack command posts, destroy

American and South Korean military aircraft and create havoc in South Korea. At about the same time, North Korea would launch a huge artillery barrage against South Korean and United States military forces, as well as key Government ministries in Seoul. South Korea has the misfortune of having a capital just 30-odd miles south of the border.

North Korean tanks and trucks would also be expected to pour across the border. The

southern side of the border is very well-defended with antitank ditches, concrete walls and other barriers, though, forcing North Korean tanks into narrow "killing zones" where South Korean and American forces would focus their firepower.

To avoid these South Korean defenses, North Korea's infantry would use tunnels dug by its army underneath the border. So

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Computer Speak

World, Wide, Web: 3 English Words

By MICHAEL SPECTER

THE Internet has been pretty universally viewed as one of the great democratic advances of the late 20th century. Nothing in human history has ever made more information more readily available to more people at lower cost.

Perhaps only the car, the pill and the television set have had a more immediate impact on the habits of 20th century Americans. According to a recent Nielsen study, adults in the United States spend more time collectively browsing the Internet every week than they do watching videocassettes. Nearly 20 million American adults say they use the World Wide Web regularly and as many as 3 million have bought goods or services on the Web.

Yo, Cairo!

The impact overseas has been at least as dramatic. If you live in Cairo, Jakarta or Vladivostok you can now exchange information with people from Athens, Lima or Lake Louise. For many, educational opportunities that could not even be imagined 10 years ago are only a few key strokes away. To study molecular genetics, all you need to get into the Harvard University Library, or the medical library at Sweden's Karolinska Institute, is a phone line and a computer.

And, it turns out, a solid command of the English language. Because whether you are a French intellectual pursuing the cutting edge of international film theory, a Japanese paleobotanist curious about a newly discovered set of primordial fossils, or an American teen-ager concerned about Magic Johnson's jump shot, the Internet and World Wide Web really only work as great unifiers if you speak English.

Mostly that's by accident. The Internet started in the United States, and the computer hackers whose reality has always been virtual are almost all American. By the time the net spread, its linguistic patterns — like its principal architecture and best software — were all Made in the U.S.A. That's not surprising since English has become the international language of commerce and communication — and since educated foreigners are far more likely to learn a second language than are any class of Americans. But increasingly that language must be English.

'Colonialism!'

"It is just incredible when I hear people talking about how open the Web is," said Anatoly Voronov, the

director of Glasnet, Russia's best-known Internet provider. "It is the ultimate act of intellectual colonialism. The product comes from America so we either must adapt to English or stop using it. That is the right of any business. But if you are talking about a technology that is supposed to open the world to hundreds of millions of people you are joking. This just makes the world into new sorts of haves and have-nots."

There are of course plenty of Web pages in Russian, Japanese, French, German and Chinese. It is possible for anybody in almost any country to carry on an electronic relationship with other people who speak his or

A force for global unity (if you know the language).

her language. And eventually computers may help translate a search from one language to another.

But for now if you want to take full advantage of the Internet there is only one real way to do it: learn English, which has more than ever become America's greatest and most effective export (carrying with it immense cultural power). It has been estimated that there are now more people who speak English as a foreign language than who speak it as their first language. English is already the language of diplomacy, scientific discourse, air traffic control. But the implications of turning an international computer network into another platform for English — and the values it automatically carries — are immense.

With the ascendancy of English and the proliferation of the net, some

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States of Mind

Rehnquist's Court is redefining federalism.

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Coming to America
To Tony Blair, Clinton is a model and an omen.

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No More Mr. Nice Guy
Peres retaliates with an eye on Syria and on an election.

By Serge Schmemmann

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To Russia With Love

Too big a bear hug by Washington might crush Boris Yeltsin instead.

By Alison Mitchell

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The Nation

Your Tax Cut Is in the Mail . . .

By MICHAEL WINES

WASHINGTON
INCOME taxes are due tomorrow, and tonight many of you will labor at the dining-room table, awash in old mortgage statements, pecking at the calculator, cursing silently at the insatiable Federal maw. Then you'll write us a check.

But we in the Government want you to know that relief is on the way. Soon, we are going to cut your taxes.

Yes, yes; we said that in 1992. And in 1994. This time we mean it.

Our Republicans have promised, at last count, \$200 billion in cuts over seven years — a \$500-a-child tax credit for working folk; breaks for adoptions, retirement, small business; President Clinton pledges \$117 billion in giveaways — a child credit; small business breaks; dispensations for college education, health care and retirement.

"Give the American people their balanced budget, a tax cut, lower interest rates and a brighter future!" he exhorted in January, in his State of the Union address. This is the least we can do, the Republicans reply. But first, about that budget.

Because we are giving some much-needed relief to you, the average American, we will have a little less money for us, the Government, to spend. Nine, maybe 10 billion dollars a year, on average, as the President reckons it, more under the Republican plan. But we doubt you will feel a thing.

Transportation might be a good place to trim. Mr. Clinton cut bus and subway subsidies earlier in his term, and now Republicans want to as well. Local transit agencies

will lose some grant money, of course, and they may have to hike fares or cut service. That is what they did in 1995, anyway; New York City's fares rose 25 cents, and the subway here in Washington cost a dime more. Over a 48-week work year — four weeks off, right? — 25 cents each way is a measly, lessee . . . \$120. Heck, most of you don't even ride the train.

Go for Education

Of course, wiping out transit subsidies altogether would only save \$2 billion a year; hardly enough to finance even the "modest" tax reduction that Mr. Clinton supports. But huge chunks of the Government's domestic spending consists of grants to the states and other pass-throughs.

Cutting Education Department grants to school districts, most of them in low-income areas, would save \$7 billion or more. Job training programs, mostly grants, eat up \$4.4 billion of Mr. Clinton's 1997 budget. Maybe these could go.

Many public schools do lean heavily on Federal aid to educate the poor; they could raise property taxes instead, assuming that residents of low-income districts can pay them. Wealthier districts will not find this a problem, and for most of you it wouldn't be more than a few hundred dollars a year.

The loss of job-training programs conceivably could push a few more workers onto the welfare rolls. But plans are to shift many welfare duties to the states anyway; this is their citizens' problem.

We in Government spent scads of money last year — hundreds of millions of dollars — insuring mortgages and guaranteeing

home loans for certain people, like young families, that lack terrific credit or a big down payment. Curbing these programs would save us money. Of course, it would raise borrowing costs for those families; raise an 8.5 percent mortgage on a \$100,000 loan by one point, and it racks up \$25,920 in additional payments over 30 years.

No doubt you know some of these programs have already been trimmed, that others are politically sacrosanct, and that further deep cuts, much less abolition, are a chancy thing. Sadly, this may be true.

"Where are we after a year's bloodletting?" in the Republican-Democratic spending wars, Robert O. Reischauer, the Brookings Institution scholar and former congressional budget guru, asked last week. "Nowhere," he answered.

So a tax cut might better be paid for from the big pots of money — like Medicare, Medicaid and such. Siphoning \$10 billion from the \$260 billion a year poured into Medicare and Medicaid would be a piece of cake, except that both programs also face major cost-cutting as part of the deficit-reduction program.

Old Complainers

We in Government could pay for your tax cut by raising Medicare premiums by, say, \$200 a year, but the elderly would protest. Or we could raise from 1.45 percent to 1.6 percent the payroll tax that swells Medicare's hospital trust fund; that would raise the bite on a \$50,000-a-year salary from \$725 to \$800. It would be easier to reduce Government payments to doctors and hospitals that treat Medicare and Medicaid patients, and



let them pass on the cost to other patients; how would they ever know?

The truth, however, is that benefit programs are even harder to cut than ordinary domestic spending. Witness this year's budget battle, in which Congress and Mr. Clinton failed to agree on a single spending reduction in a major entitlement program.

We could always finance your tax cut painlessly, as we have for decades, by adding to the Federal deficit. All right, not entirely painlessly: a \$10 billion loan to the Treasury at 5.5 percent simple interest would cost \$550 million a year before the first penny of principal was retired, and we would have to borrow another \$9 billion or \$10 billion every year.

A lot of economists argue that this kind of borrowing also saps productivity, by soaking up money that would otherwise be spent to update factories and educate workers, and thus lowers our standard of living. And they say it pushes up interest rates by

reducing the amount of money available for other loans, thereby making everything more costly. Indeed, this is why we wanted to get the deficit down to zero to begin with.

You may be getting the impression that a tax cut is a lot like Bar Day at the ball park: an apparent freebie whose cost actually is tacked on to the hot dogs or the stadium parking or the souvenir program. You may think that there is no free lunch.

Well, you are wrong. There is one painless way to pay for a tax cut. It consists of eliminating pork in that packinghouse of political largess, the Federal highway program. We spend \$19 billion a year to help states build roads. We shall cut it in half.

Granted, that is a bit stiff. Some states might raise income taxes to offset the loss, and many would probably pare back repairs and construction.

But a few more potholes or traffic jams would be little bother. Heck, most of you can take the train anyway.



Paul Heston/The New York Times
Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

Taking States Seriously

By LINDA GREENHOUSE

WASHINGTON
FOR much of his nearly quarter century on the Supreme Court, William H. Rehnquist was the outlier. Often in dissent, he traveled far from the pack, tracing a singular path across a constitutional landscape that in his view was strewn with monuments to the modern Court's errors. Prominent among these were the Court's precedents elevating the power of the Federal Government at the expense of the individual states.

Now approaching his 10th anniversary as Chief Justice, Mr. Rehnquist began to put his years as a lone dissenter behind as Presidents Reagan and Bush reshaped the Court around him. These days, he is the general in charge of a constitutional war along the Federal-state frontier. Aided by timing, patience and, to no small extent, the good luck of having colleagues who agree with him that the states' interests have been submerged for too long, he is conducting this high-stakes war along several fronts of distinct but interrelated constitutional doctrine.

And he is winning. When the Rehnquist Court passes into history — the 71-year-old Chief Justice is widely expected to retire within the next few years — a reshaping of the Federal-state balance may prove his most enduring legacy. He has been frustrated in other areas where he lacks a working majority — the right to abortion is still the law of the land, and organized prayer is not back in public schools. But for Federal-state relations, his tenure could mark a historic shift.

States' Rights

Last month, Chief Justice Rehnquist wrote an opinion for a 5-to-4 majority in a case that gave new teeth to one of the Constitution's more obscure and ambiguous provisions, the 11th Amendment. The amendment, adopted in 1795 in response to the states' fears of being sued for Revolutionary War debts, shields a state from being sued in Federal court by a citizen of another state. The Court subsequently interpreted the 11th Amendment to bar suits by a state's own citizens as well in an 1890 decision that Chief Justice Rehnquist's opinion last week in *Seminole Tribe v. Florida* essentially revised and placed on firmer constitutional footing than ever before.

The *Seminole Tribe* decision struck down a portion of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, a Federal law

governing the terms by which Indian tribes can conduct gambling on their reservations. The Court held that, despite Congress's virtually complete constitutional authority to legislate in the area of Indian affairs and the states' lack of any such authority, the law's provision permitting tribes to sue a state to bring it to the bargaining table violated the 11th Amendment.

The decision contained several loopholes; people can still sue states on equal protection grounds and seek injunctions to keep individual state officials from violating Federal law. But it calls into question the authority of Congress to insure that people can vindicate their Federally guaranteed rights in Federal court.

The 11th Amendment case followed by less than a year an important victory by the Chief Justice on another front: Congress's authority to regulate interstate commerce. In *United States v. Lopez*, the Court found for the first time in 60 years that Congress had

Under Rehnquist, the Court has held the Federal Government's powers at bay.

exceeded its authority by making it a Federal crime to carry a gun within 1,000 feet of a school. Such an act, the Chief Justice said, was simply out of commerce.

As with the *Seminole Tribe* case, the significance of *United States v. Lopez* lay in its implications, in its turning away from the prevailing notion that Congress knew best and that the authentic vision of American history was "the steady and inevitable triumph of nationalism," as Wilfred M. McClay, a historian at Tulane University, wrote recently in *Commentary*.

A Rehnquist opinion rings no such rhetorical bells. The *Lopez* opinion was typically dry and to the point. To agree with the Government that Congress had the power it claimed would require the Court to conclude "that there never will be a distinction between what is truly national and what is truly local," the Chief Justice said. "This," he added, "we are unwilling to do."

Federal courts have since struck down a Federal arson law as applied to a private home — seen as insufficiently connected to interstate commerce — and the Child Support Recovery Act, which brings some "deadbeat dad" cases within Federal jurisdiction.

The mightiest constitutional engine of all for returning power to the states may be the 10th Amendment, which has been absent from the Court's docket for the last few years but may soon return in force.

The 10th Amendment provides that powers not delegated by the Constitution to the Federal Government are reserved to the states. Its history as a charter of state sovereignty has been fitful, with the Chief Justice its most ardent modern champion on the Court.

Four years ago, he joined an opinion by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor that invoked the 10th Amendment to strike down a Federal law that required the states to take responsibility for disposing of the low-level radioactive waste generated within their borders. Referring to the Constitution as dividing power "among sovereigns," Justice O'Connor said the Federal Government could not "commandeer" the states "into the service of Federal regulatory purposes."

Ticking Decisions

For several years, the decision, *New York v. United States*, sat quietly ticking. But last month, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit relied heavily on it to strike down a section of the 1994 Brady Handgun Violence Protection Act that requires local sheriffs to make background checks of handgun purchasers. The Brady law makes states the "victims of impermissible Federal coercion," the appeals court said. Two other appeals courts had upheld the law, so Supreme Court review is all but inevitable.

In addition to Justice O'Connor, a former state legislator and judge in Arizona who came to the Court as a passionate advocate for state interests, the Chief Justice's allies are Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy, and Clarence Thomas. (It is an interesting twist that the only other Justice with state government experience, David H. Souter, a former New Hampshire attorney-general and state court judge, has brought equal passion to dissenting opinions that have made the argument for Federal authority.)

While solid for now, the Chief Justice's margin is thin enough to make it likely that hearings for his successor — or for any Justice — will spend substantial time on the nominee's views on federalism. After years of controversy over race, sex, religion and abortion, who could have predicted that the 10th Amendment, the 11th Amendment and the Commerce Clause would hold center stage? But if the confirmation process is a window into what people hope for and fear from the Court at any given moment, they just might.

Private Groups Lead Charge in War on Far Right

By MICHAEL JANOFSKY

WASHINGTON
IN the year since the worst terrorist act on American soil, the bombing of a Federal building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people, the number of right-wing groups harboring anti-government sentiments has been estimated at more than 800, by some counts, and they now operate in every state.

These are organized groups of militias, white supremacists, neo-Nazis, skinheads, survivalists and constitutionalists who are connected to each other with increasing frequency by the Internet, fax machines and a shared belief in Christian Identity, a renegade religious concept that proclaims whites to be God's chosen people, Jews to be descendants of Satan and blacks to be subhuman.

At the same time, however, as Federal agencies proceed with traditional means of intelligence gathering (as in the Unabomber case), and Congress ponders a new anti-terrorism bill (stalled by the gun lobby and civil libertarians), efforts to fight domestic terrorism are being supplemented more than ever by pri-

ivate human rights organizations that track the fringe right with their own networks. They willingly share information with law enforcement agencies, branches of the military and reporters.

Federal law enforcement agencies, which were heavily criticized for their actions in fatal confrontations in Ruby Ridge, Idaho, and Waco, Tex., appear to be trying a new, more patient approach in waiting for a peaceful solution to the current standoff with the anti-government group called the Freeman in eastern Montana. They have been criticized this time, largely by neighbors of the Freeman and local officials, for waiting so long to get involved, and for waiting at all.

Undercover Work

Most of the human rights organizations were actively campaigning against racism and anti-Semitism long before the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19, 1995 and the arrest of two suspects with links to militia groups. And with many of the right-wing groups now hiding racist views beyond a more acceptable veneer of anti-government oratory, the

human rights groups say the need to collect information has become that much more critical.

At least two of them — the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., and the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles — use undercover operatives. Both organizations had spies attend a conven-

A year after Oklahoma City, the Government is standoffish.

tion last weekend in Lake Tahoe that attracted hundreds of Christian Identity followers to hear a speech by Randy Weaver, the white separatist whose wife and son were killed three years ago in a siege by Federal agents in Ruby Ridge.

The Southern Poverty Law Center has computer files of more than 12,000 people identified as members of a far-right group. The Wiesenthal

Center operates an extensive electronic tracking station, where researchers monitor television, cable and radio shows all over the world for racist and anti-Semitic content.

When the Army recently conducted an internal investigation to learn how many soldiers were involved with skinhead groups, senior officers at the Pentagon twice conferred with Wiesenthal Center officials, and when Patrick J. Buchanan was running for the Republican Presidential nomination, they produced names of Buchanan supporters who once worked for David Duke, a former Ku Klux Klan member, or had affiliation with the National Association for the Advancement of White People.

Law enforcement agencies have credited the human rights groups with helping the public become more aware of the beliefs, factions and heroes of the far-right fringe. The human rights groups see their efforts as a necessary antidote to the sympathetic treatment of far-right groups on conservative talk radio programs, and to the reluctance of some conservative politicians to criticize the extremists. But the work may have also produced some



F.B.I. agents check a car at a roadblock near the standoff in Montana.

unintended consequences.

Writing in *The Jubilee*, a publication of the Christian Identity movement, a former militia leader from Alabama, Jeff Randall, said the drumbeat of concern over domestic terrorism has served as a welcome recruiting device for militias and other right-wing groups.

"Throughout all this," he wrote, "the militias became stronger and better organized."

"Many people are wondering if the militia movement is still alive and well," he added. "The answer to that question is a resounding 'yes.'"

Handwritten text: "Medico 1100"

APRIL 14 1996

The World Pulling for Yeltsin, but Gingerly

By ALISON MITCHELL

WASHINGTON
IT'S no secret inside the White House that President Clinton would like to see not just himself but Boris Yeltsin turn out to be the Comeback Kid of 1996. But with Russia's elections fast approaching and its public in a nationalist mood these days, that still leaves open the question of just how closely Bill should embrace Boris when the two meet in Moscow this week.

Certainly, the Administration has not been shy about doing what it can to assist Russia and by extension the irascible, unpredictable and boisterous Mr. Yeltsin. For however flawed Mr. Yeltsin may be, however given to disconcerting political tactics, American officials generally consider him the only candidate who has a chance to beat the Communist front-runner, Gennadi A. Zyuganov.

Moral Support

The Administration pushed hard for the International Monetary Fund to make its \$10 billion loan to Russia. It has worked to limit restrictions on Russian goods coming into America and pressured the European Union to do the same. It has kept its public criticisms of the slaughter in Chechnya muted. And it has been patient with Russian difficulties in complying with a conventional forces treaty that was negotiated before the Soviet Union fell apart.

But being too open about the United States' preferences while on the soil of Mother Russia is quite another matter — not the least because it could damage Mr. Yeltsin given the current resentments in his country. Administration officials also concede that if the United States is serious about promoting democracy in Russia it must be prepared to accept the verdict of the voters, even if they choose the candidate who least serves America's interests.

And so Mr. Clinton will be walking a thin line during his three days in Moscow and St. Petersburg, making clear, as he did at a recent Washington news conference, that while "none of us should take any position on the elections in another country," the United States "has clearly been



President Clinton and President Yeltsin at Hyde Park, N.Y., last fall.

on the side of reform in Russia." The President is likely to use several symbolic venues in St. Petersburg to try to mute anti-American sentiments and remind Russians of what they gained when the Communists fell. At Piskarovskoye Cemetery Mr.

Clinton will lay a wreath to honor World War II veterans and remember how the Soviet Union and United States were allies before the Cold War. He may also use a stop at the city's Kazan Cathedral to speak about the return of religion to Russia. Or he may visit the new shops in

the hauntingly beautiful city to illustrate that market reforms can bear fruit. And in Moscow he will include the obligatory meeting with an array of Russia's political leaders.

If pressed by reporters in Moscow, Mr. Clinton, officials say, is prepared to make clear that Mr. Yeltsin in America's eyes has been a "reformer," a sobriquet that many bitter onetime allies long ago stopped according him.

Deflecting criticisms that its Russia policy has been too centered on Mr. Yeltsin, just as President Bush was once too tied to Mikhail Gorbachev, American officials say backing reform and reformers is an interest-based matter of policy rather than personality.

"It's in the interest of the United States and we believe the international community at large for Russia to continue down the road of democracy and reform," said an Administration official. "That's kind of a self-evident proposition."

Mr. Clinton of course will not be the only Western leader in Moscow this week. His visit is built around a summit meeting on nuclear safety and security including of the seven major Western industrial powers, Russia and the Ukraine. It was Mr. Yeltsin's idea that the talks take place in Moscow. And it is from that summit, American officials say, that Mr. Yeltsin is expecting to get a pre-election bounce, showcased in his incumbency as someone who can summon the world's leaders to the Kremlin.

A Little Dangerous

Yet there are those who think that even the talks could prove to be risky politics. "It is often the case when you have something so obviously designed as a puff piece for someone it can backfire on them," said Paul A. Goble, a former State Department specialist now at Radio Free Europe.

With its focus on nuclear smuggling, nuclear safety and the Chernobyl power plant, it will necessarily place a spotlight on safety problems in Russia. "While some will say it's the Communists' fault and we can't go back," said Mr. Goble, "others will say, 'What has Yeltsin been doing for the last five years?'"

In British Race, Blair Fits Bill

By JOHN DARTON

LONDON
POLITICIANS in Britain sometimes look to the United States the way New Yorkers look to California — to peer into the possible future. With a mixture of fascination and dread, they train their telescopes on the horizon and wonder which trends of public fickleness will blow their way and which newfangled techniques can be lifted for their own campaigns.

Thus, John F. Kennedy's victory in 1960 augured well for Labor, the Democrats' natural affiliate here, and his "New Frontier" seemed to find an echo in Harold Wilson's 1964 campaign pledge to forge a new prosperous era through the "white heat of technology."

In 1992, President George Bush's defeat brought gloom to the Conservatives of Prime Minister John Major, who had sent some Tory strategists to lend him a hand. By the same token, Mr. Clinton's win buoyed the hopes of Labor — starting in opposition ever since Margaret Thatcher's election in 1979 — that their day might soon be at hand.

Among the Laborites who crowded into a ballroom at London's Dorchester Hotel to celebrate the inauguration of Mr. Clinton, none were happier than a group of young Turks in the party called "modernizers." In the same way that Mr. Clinton as Governor of Arkansas had helped create a more conservative and popular wing of the Democratic Party, they were prodding Labor to turn its back on a tradition of trade union domination and socialist egalitarianism. This old-time religion, they calculated, offended the country's swing voters among middle-class English, snatching defeat from the jaws of victory time and time again.

This process — of moving the Labor Party to the mainstream of British life — was called "Clintonization" and its prime practitioner, who took over the mantle of party leadership when John Smith died of a heart attack in 1994, was Tony Blair. Last week Mr. Blair sat in the White House as a guest of President Clinton while on a trip to New York and Washington to bolster his international credentials.

Campaigns Ahead

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Blair have met before (at the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin in Israel and during a Presidential visit here last November), but this was their first opportunity for substantive talks. At some point, surely, their conversation turned to politics, since each of them is effectively at the beginning of a campaign. Mr. Clinton's contest in November against Senator Bob Dole will likely come first, because Mr. Major is able to put off the showdown with Mr. Blair until May 1997, though he retains the option of calling a snap election before then.

In both countries, the campaigns will play out against an uncertain economic background. In Britain, as in the United States, economic growth has been restored and both inflation and unemployment are low (the British figures are 2.7 percent and 7.9 percent respectively). But, again as in the United States, economic insecurity is rife, thanks to downsizing and corporate benefit-trimming. The Conservatives' main

hope is to institute a dramatic tax cut in the next budget to reinforce their image as the cost-conscious party that keeps money in the pockets of wage-earners.

One major difference between the two contests, of course, is that Mr. Clinton is the incumbent and Mr. Blair is the challenger. Superficially at least, the candidates are somewhat alike, fast-talking men able to sketch out a vision of the way things should be, running against opponents who embody stolid virtues of the status quo and do not arouse much excitement on the stump.

Parallel Lives

Mr. Blair, 43, is resolutely middle class; his father was a barrister, he went to a private secondary school in Scotland and then to St. John's at Oxford (where the Mr. Clinton was a Rhodes Scholar). From his student days in a rock group, he still plays the acoustic guitar (compared with Mr. Clinton's saxophone). He lives in a Victorian house in Islington (London's equivalent of the Upper West Side), favors pinstriped suits and is married to a high-powered barrister, Cherie Booth, who was recently made a Queen's Counsel, a member of the profession's inner sanctum. Already the Tory press is trying to draw a comparison to Hillary Rodham Clinton, which does not seem to fit but has forced Mr. Blair to insist that she would play no role whatsoever in his government.

In some ways — his clean-cut looks, his Oxbridge accent and a to-the-manor-born confidence — Mr. Blair seems more appropriate as a Tory leader than Mr. Major, now 53 but so heavily gray that he seems years older. The Prime Minister still carries the flat, unpretentious accent of suburban South London where he was raised; his parents were once variety-show performers who went into the garden ornament business, and he lacks a university degree. A fundamentally decent and modest man who is charming in a small group, he is not an instinctive politician and he has failed to ignite enthusiasm in the country at large, suffering the successor syndrome in the wake of Mrs. Thatcher much as Mr. Bush did following Ronald Reagan. He is behind in the polls, by over 20 points in all surveys, and is widely expected to lose. Last week the Conservatives lost a by-election, reducing their majority in Parliament to a single vote.

If Mr. Blair has an Achilles' heel, it's one he shares with Mr. Clinton. As conciliators and reformers who have moved their parties from traditional positions and ignored some traditional constituencies, both are charged by critics with lacking in bedrock convictions. Mr. Blair, who has praised the single-mindedness of Mrs. Thatcher's visioo and has backed away from ideological pledges, is sometimes called Tony Blair by his detractors.

In an interview before leaving for the United States, Mr. Blair denied that the problems of the Clinton Administration in passing some of its programs served as a "negative role model," asserting that the American Constitution often forces the President to negotiate with Congress to get legislation passed. "It's not like here, where you get a government elected that has a majority in the House of Commons, that proposes legislation and then just pushes it through."



Tony Blair at the British Embassy in Washington on Friday.

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The World

Giving War a Chance

By SERGE SCHMEMANN

A scant two months ago, the war between fundamentalist Islamic guerrillas and Israel in southern Lebanon was a minor smudge in an otherwise hopeful picture for the Israelis. The peace with the Palestinians was moving along well, the Syrians were at the peace table in Washington, and if the Party of God guerrillas were still harassing Israeli troops in their buffer zone in southern Lebanon, the clashes were limited. Anyway, the entire conflict would go away once there was peace with Syria.

But the sudden thuds of four suicide bombs in late February and early March abruptly broke the spell. The peace with the Palestinians changed into an ugly siege and, as that happened, the talks with the Syrians broke up. Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who had been riding a wave of hope and sympathy before the bombings, suddenly had to prove that he could also provide that elusive condition that Israelis seek above all, and before anything else — security.

More important, a dent anywhere in Israel's sense of security increases the sense of insecurity everywhere, among Israelis and Arabs alike. So it was only a matter of time before the tide reached southern Lebanon.

An Unwritten Pact Collapses

Since 1993, there had been an unwritten agreement to restrict the fighting between the Party of God guerrillas and Israel to the nine-mile-wide "security zone" that the Israeli Army maintains in southern Lebanon,

with neither side attacking civilians. But recently each side accused the other of breaking that agreement, and two Katyusha rocket attacks within a week — which the Party of God described as retaliation for civilian deaths at Israeli hands — roused passionate demands for action in Israel.

Two months ago, Israel might have limited such operations to a few strikes against the Party of God targets just outside the buffer zone. But this time Mr. Peres unleashed the full force and sophistication of the Israeli military machine. In the most audacious

than any military hits, that forced Syria and the Party of God to agree to curb attacks on Israel's civilians.

A Reservoir of Rage

But now, with no prospect that Israel and Syria will resume negotiations any time soon, neither country seems to have much political incentive for restraint. And with the Israeli public still feeling rage over the suicide bombings traced mostly to Hamas, a group that has proven frustratingly well-entrenched among the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza, there has been little domestic resistance to striking hard against the Party of God, an Iranian-backed movement in Lebanon that shares the fundamentalist outlook of Hamas but offers a clearer and more accessible target. For Mr. Peres last week, there was also an undeniable boost for his election campaign, in the opportunity to act tough and decisive.

If the Israeli calculations are right, the strikes could destroy some of the Party of God's hitherto untouchable bases, and the flood of refugees may force Syria — whose 35,000 troops in Lebanon make it the highest authority there — to place curbs on the guerrillas.

But the history of Israeli-Arab conflicts has also demonstrated the limitations of force, especially in dealing with guerrillas. The Katyusha rockets continued to rain late last week, and the Party of God leader, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, pledged to retaliate in a time and place that "will astonish Peres." That means another twist in the 12-year war of attrition on Israel's northern border, with unforeseeable consequences for the political race, and for peace.

The bombs that burst Israel's hopes for security sent a tide of insecurity that now has reached Lebanon.

attack, Israeli gunships fired four Hellfire anti-tank missiles right into the windows of the Party of God's headquarters in southern Beirut. It was the first strike into Beirut in 14 years, and the message was clear: Israel was on the warpath.

The Party of God retaliated with salvos of vintage Katyusha rockets, and Israel struck back against Lebanese villages, sending thousands of people who live there fleeing to Beirut. In 1993, after a similar operation, it was the problem of dealing with tens of thousands of refugees in Lebanon, more

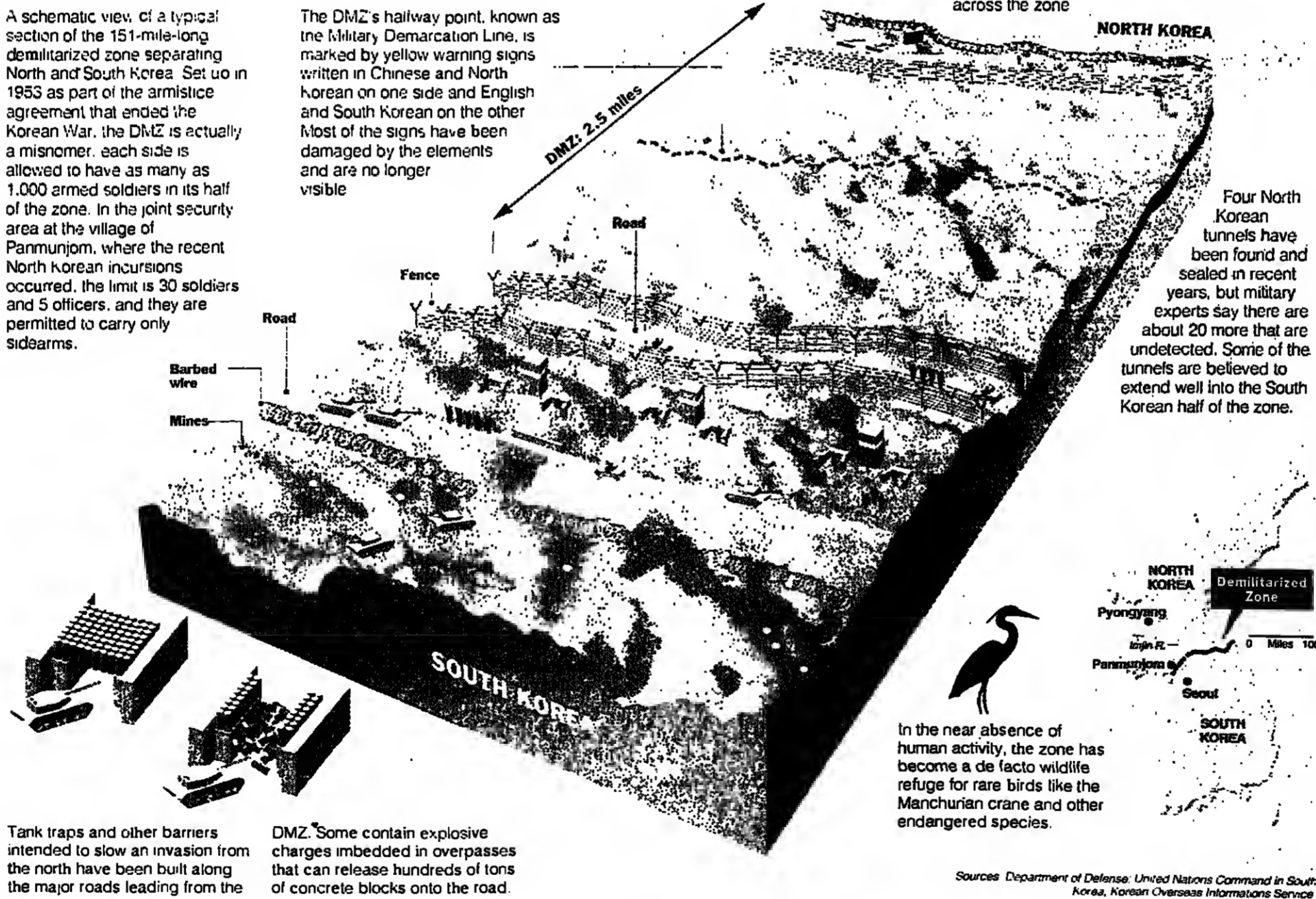
Scenario of Desperation

North Korea Wouldn't Invade, Would It?

Good Fences, Bad Neighbors

A schematic view of a typical section of the 151-mile-long demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea. Set up in 1953 as part of the armistice agreement that ended the Korean War, the DMZ is actually a misnomer: each side is allowed to have as many as 1,000 armed soldiers in its half of the zone. In the joint security area at the village of Panmunjom, where the recent North Korean incursions occurred, the limit is 30 soldiers and 5 officers, and they are permitted to carry only sidearms.

The DMZ's halfway point, known as the Military Demarcation Line, is marked by yellow warning signs written in Chinese and North Korean on one side and English and South Korean on the other. Most of the signs have been damaged by the elements and are no longer visible.



Tank traps and other barriers intended to slow an invasion from the north have been built along the major roads leading from the

DMZ. Some contain explosive charges imbedded in overpasses that can release hundreds of tons of concrete blocks onto the road.

Giant loudspeakers broadcast propaganda and martial music across the zone

NORTH KOREA

Four North Korean tunnels have been found and sealed in recent years, but military experts say there are about 20 more that are undetected. Some of the tunnels are believed to extend well into the South Korean half of the zone.

In the near absence of human activity, the zone has become a de facto wildlife refuge for rare birds like the Manchurian crane and other endangered species.

Sources: Department of Defense; United Nations Command in South Korea; Korean Overseas Information Service

Scott Veale and John Papatan/The New York Times

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far four tunnels have been found, the deepest 450 feet beneath the surface, but South Korean experts say that based on accounts by defectors they believe there are about 20 more such tunnels. Intelligence analysts estimate that just the four tunnels discovered so far would allow 10,000 troops per hour to enter South Korea.

To slow any invaders, South Korean bridges and roads either have explosives built in or have places for explosives to be inserted and detonated quickly. Huge rock fields have been built above key roads, so that an explosive can send boulders hurtling down to block the roads.

North Korean engineering teams would be charged with clearing the roads and fording the broad Imjin River to get to Seoul. Apparently with Seoul in mind, the North Korean Army has devoted considerable resources to river-crossing units, for it has 800 amphibious vehicles and 2,300 prefabricated sections for bridges.

The North Korean aim, military officers say, would be to capture Seoul in a blitz-

krieg attack, before American reinforcements could arrive from Japan, Europe and the United States. One other way North Korea might try to slow reinforcements would be to attack American air bases in Japan, possibly with missiles.

Although North Korea may have a couple of nuclear weapons, it is not clear how they could be delivered, and American planners are more worried by the North's 1,000-ton stockpile of chemical weapons.

"I think you would probably see the first major use of chemical agents since World War I," said an American military expert who is in the minority predicting a strong chance of war. "If they were to decide to depopulate Seoul before taking it, they could probably do it with very little defense on our part."

Certain Defeat

Still, American planners say that the United States and South Korea would quickly establish air and naval superiority. Most say that North Korea would be a far more credible opponent than Iraq was

in the Gulf war, but there is virtual unanimity that in the end the North Korean regime would be destroyed. North Korea's invasion scenario now is not so different from the one that played out in 1950, when it launched the Korean War — except that now South Korea has a formidable army, backed by the United States. And this time, China — which is no longer particularly friendly to North Korea and even has border disputes with it — almost certainly will not send its army to rescue the North when it gets in trouble.

That is the best argument for presuming that North Korea will not invade: it would be suicide. But does the North know that?

"The problem is not that North Korea can defeat us, but that they think they can," said the American Government expert who worries about an invasion soon. This official, like some others, is afraid that the North Koreans will find the alternative — not invading — also suicidal. Almost everyone believes that North Korea is on a trajectory toward collapse.

"The situation for the regime in North Korea is not sustainable, because their

economy and their agriculture are continuing to get worse and worse, and then they had those horrible floods last summer," said Col. John W. Reitz, a spokesman for the American forces in Korea. "The end for that regime is in sight; we just don't know when."

Conflicting Signals

One cause for concern is that North Korea last fall repositioned heavy guns and military aircraft closer to the border. One group of 11-28 bombers now can reach Seoul in just six minutes.

There are also many contrary signals: North Korea's military exercises have been at an unusually low level in recent months, and satellites have spotted no unusual mobilizations of North Korea's 1.2 million-member armed forces. On the other hand, its troops are already massed on the border, and so American military planners worry that they might not have much warning before their radar screens began lighting up with incoming missiles and artillery shells.

Web Is A Word In English

Continued from page 1

people wonder whether the new world order is really going to exist on two levels — on one a cosmopolitan community that chatters away in the language of Shakespeare and Bertrando, and on the other a new world of cultural and intellectual ghettos for people incapable of taking advantage of what is out there in English. Information no longer comes wrapped in tidy packages — accessible to those with a library card or money to buy books. These days information, and the power it confers, are sitting at the end of 100 million keyboards. But instead of uniting the millions of people who have access to computers and phone lines, the Internet, and the World Wide Web, can be seen in central ways as capable of dividing them.

As Glasnet's Mr. Voronov puts it: "It is far easier for a Russian language speaker with a computer to download the works of Dostoyevsky translated into English to read than it is for him to get the original in his own language. Why shouldn't Pushkin or Lermontov be more available in Russian?" For the moment the answer is simple: the demand is not big enough to make it worth anybody's while to provide such services. Eventually, that will probably change.

Have and Have-Nots

"Clearly in the short term this sets up a class distinction between the English-speaking elites and the non-English-speaking have-nots," said David Shenk, a fellow at the Freedom Forum Media Studies Center at Columbia University who is writing a book on the information glut produced by the Internet. Mr. Shenk likens the absolute supremacy of English on the Web now to what happens as any major industry starts up.

"When oil became such an important commodity the people sitting on it became rich," he wrote, in an interview carried out on the Internet. "Many English-speaking Russians and Chinese and Arabs will probably make a bundle using the new medium as a channel for commerce." But Mr. Shenk, like many others, says the Web changes too fast to be likely to be using English forever as its only international language. "Be careful of turning astute observations about the current state of the Web into implications for the future," he said.

As the Web grows the number of people on it who speak French, say, or Russian will become more varied and that variety will be expressed on the Web. That is why it is a fundamentally democratic technology. But it won't necessarily happen soon.

According to Christian Huitema, who is on the board of the Internet Society, which tries to set world standards, it takes about 2 million potential customers to establish a workable market. Japan now has close to 3 million, and it has become far less dependent upon and bothered by the hegemony of English than many other countries. "As the Internet grows, the body of people speaking other languages than English will grow as well," said Mr. Huitema.

"The effect of the Internet is to make information available at minimum cost and effort," he said. "This is most beneficial to the current 'have-nots' of our societies. High school students in desolated urban areas or university students in Africa can gain information on the Internet that is currently available only in the libraries of educated parents or Ivy League Universities. Learning basic English in order to reap that benefit seems like a sensible investment."



A woman and her son wait to be evacuated from the northern border area of Israel.

كلمة من الالهي

1994/12/15

ECONOMY

The NBC Peacock Preens Again, Nurtured by GE

By BILL CARTER

AT the Capital Cities/ABC annual management meeting in February, in what amounted to his farewell address after the company merged with Walt Disney, Tom Murphy, the chairman of Cap Cities, had a message for his troops: "How can you let those engineers beat us?" Mr. Murphy asked. "Those guys make M.R.I. machines."

"Those guys" are the leaders of the General Electric Company, which 10 years ago entered the world of network television by acquiring NBC as part of its \$6.3 billion purchase of RCA. These "engineers" were once disdained in the world of broadcasting as interlopers without vision, unable to distinguish between turbines and televisions.

No more. The decade since has been marked by the biggest swings ever in the networks' fortunes, with NBC smack in the middle of the turmoil. The network dominated the small screen until the end of the 1980's, before its ratings and profits collapsed, leaving it losses of \$80 million in 1991 and just one prime-time show in the A. C. Nielsen top 10. Rumors swirled almost weekly that G.E. was about to bail out, selling NBC to Paramount, to Time Warner, or even to one of its stars, Bill Cosby.

Critics placed considerable blame at the feet of G.E.; its chairman, John F. Welch Jr., and the former G.E. executive placed in charge of NBC, Robert C. Wright, NBC's failure was inevitable, these critics said, because of interference from G.E. executives who simply did not understand broadcasting.

But G.E. didn't sell, and Jack Welch is still around. So is Bob Wright, now by far the longest-lasting head of any network, and the longest-serving NBC chief executive since orear radio days.

Not only that, but NBC has emerged in the last nine months as the undisputed leader of network television, with the five top-rated shows most weeks, now that ABC's "Monday Night Football" is over for the season. NBC accomplished this through a combination of astute programming strategy, a new team of division managers with a special talent for television production and the experience gained from having made numerous mistakes in the late 1980's and early 1990's. Of course, it also had a dose of the good luck that often seems to pass, at random, from network to network. Beyond all this, the company is now armed with growing cable assets and is becoming a force in global communications.

Suddenly the connection between NBC and its giant of a parent is being called crucial not just to the

network's comeback, but to the vindication of Mr. Wright's once-maligned strategy of expanding into far-flung businesses.

NBC has grown so strong so fast that there has been a backlash from both network rivals and Hollywood studio executives, who say NBC has displayed a grating arrogance. The friction has been most intense with Disney, ABC's new owner, with sniping over professional tactics and personal ethics reaching the top levels of both companies.

Mr. Welch himself, though far from smug, does acknowledge that "recovery is fun," clearly enjoying the industry's about-face on G.E. and NBC.

A short time after Mr. Murphy made his plea for ABC to stand up against the "engineers," Mr. Welch met him on a golf course and could not resist "ragging him." "Here's the locomotive salesman," Mr. Welch said he told Mr. Murphy.

For Mr. Welch, an engineer himself, who for 15 years has run what is now the nation's most valuable company — G.E.'s market value is three times Disney's — the criticism that he and Mr. Wright faced after they took over the network was "a little bit of silliness."

To him, television's unique mysteries were overrated anyway — certainly easier to fathom than the brokerage business, where G.E. did stub its toe when it purchased Kidder, Peabody only to have to sell it later at a loss.

"Everyone in any business thinks their own business is unique," Mr. Welch said. "This business has a distribution, like all businesses have distribution. It requires revenues, which require a good sales force. So the issue is: What's new? The only thing new is this content" — the programs.

He did not, he added, have a mastery of other G.E. businesses, either. "I don't know how to build an engine," he said. "I don't know how to build a turbine. I don't know how to make a light bulb. What you have to do is get people who know how to do that."

In 1986, he chose Mr. Wright, a lawyer who was then president of GE Capital and previously an executive with Cox Cable, as the man to lead NBC. And while the network was riding high in prime-time ratings, Mr. Wright walked in the door predicting trouble if the company did not diversify and get its costs in line. That did not endear him to most longtime NBC executives. But one who remains said, in essence, that Mr. Wright was right.

"We were fat," said the executive, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "Costs were out of control. Our union contacts were too costly. There was no accountability."

The process of paring down cast a

harsh public light on Mr. Wright and the new G.E. management, especially when much of the cost-cutting flowed through NBC News. Mr. Wright said he could never accept the premise that news should be a loss leader. "The news division was losing \$50 million or \$60 million a year," Mr. Wright said, "and I think they were projecting with a certain casualness that the number could get to be \$100 million."

So he began cutting news bureaus and eliminating jobs. These moves branded him in the eyes of critics as a broadcast outsider who cared less about news than about profits.

Profits were certainly on his mind. In 1988, when NBC achieved record earnings of more than \$500 million, the key, one senior executive said, was not prime-time success, already fading by then, but that "we had squeezed out \$150 million in costs, mostly through staff reductions."

The prime-time slide, however, soon caught up with NBC. By 1991, the network was losing money — though NBC as a whole was still profitable because of its television stations. The news division, then under Michael G. Gartner, who Mr. Welch said "cleaned out a lot of the underbrush," had stemmed its losses but still lacked a prime-time news magazine program to generate profits. When it finally developed one, "Dateline NBC," the program blew up in NBC's face — almost literally — over a report about truck safety that included faked gas-tank explosions.

Mr. Wright acknowledged that he had some rocky moments. "There was a lot of pressure," he said. But Mr. Welch said he never questioned Mr. Wright's capabilities.

"In the worst moment, never," he said. "I knew Bob was better than anybody else we could have put in that business. He was always this good. He went through a cycle. And while he was going through this cycle he was building all these other assets."

These assets included CNBC, the business news cable channel that analysts now value at more than \$1 billion; a second cable channel, "America's Talking," which led to a partnership with the Microsoft Corporation and which is about to be converted to an all-news format; a Europe-based cable and satellite network called Super Channel, seen as the foundation of an ambitious plan to extend NBC programming internationally, and stakes in numerous other cable channels, including Arts and Entertainment, Court TV, American Movie Classics, Bravo, Sports Channel America and the History Channel. NBC has also grabbed a huge portion of the sports television pie, having secured the rights to six of the next seven Olympic Games.

10 Years of Change

1986 G.E. acquires RCA, parent company of NBC, for \$6.3 billion.

1989 Starts CNBC, a financial news cable channel, and acquires interests in American Movie Classics, Bravo and Sports Channel.

1990 Acquires stake in Court TV.

1991 Acquires Financial News Network for \$180 million, and combines it with CNBC.

1993 Acquires Super Channel, a European entertainment network, for \$23 million. Also starts America's Talking, an all-talk cable channel. Hires Don Ohlmeyer to run entertainment and Andrew Lack to run news, and, to end speculation, announces that NBC is not for sale.

1995 Sells half-interest in America's Talking to Microsoft for \$220 million and announces a plan to convert it into an all-news channel with on-line capabilities.

1996 Starts NBC Asia, a new cable channel for the Far East.

This kind of expansion was Mr. Wright's stated goal when he arrived. That goal began to look misguided as the network's fortunes declined and Mr. Wright continued to push NBC toward adding costly new assets, like the Financial News Network, purchased in 1991 solely because CNBC could not have survived if forced to compete with another business news channel. The two rival channels were quickly merged.

"It was very difficult during the expansion," Mr. Wright said in an interview. "The criticism in a situation like that is always, 'You should be spending more time on the core business.' It's one of those impossible-to-define positions. On the other hand, if we had fixed the core and we didn't do any of these other things, we'd really be had off now."

One obvious key to NBC's turnaround was finding better shows. In part, it was simply NBC's turn for a favorable cycle in programming, but the network also developed a host of original shows that have been widely praised as the best of their kind, including "Seinfeld," "E.R." and "Friends." Significantly, when asked to cite a turning point, Mr. Wright does not mention any cable acquisitions or the cornering of most of the big sports events. "It was more or less the arrival of Don Ohlmeyer," Mr. Wright said.

Mr. Ohlmeyer, whom Mr. Wright called an exceptional manager of the programming staff, joined NBC as

head of its West Coast operation in 1993, when the network had only one real hit show, "Cheers," which had just announced that it was ending production. But Mr. Wright was also quick to credit Warren Littlefield, the president of NBC Entertainment, with having made several moves that were beginning to bear fruit when Mr. Ohlmeyer was hired.

That February, with "Cheers" ending production, Mr. Littlefield was freed from an obligation to the show's owner, Paramount, to broadcast another Paramount show, "Wings," immediately after it. Given that freedom, he made a move he had longed to make, putting "Seinfeld," then merely a cult hit, in that ideal time slot for the rest of that season.

"Seinfeld" became an instant sensation, leading NBC's rebuilding of Thursday into the strongest night in television. Other shows developed under Mr. Littlefield, like "Mad About You," also started to emerge as hits at that time.

Mr. Wright said Mr. Ohlmeyer was able to get the most out of those on the staff, and Mr. Welch credited the programming executive with bringing a sense of strength to the operations. "The guy was a force," Mr. Welch said. "In this business you can't have little people. You've got to have people that have an aura about them."

In adding Mr. Ohlmeyer, Mr. Wright was acting on a conclusion he had made after working with Dick Ebersol, the president of NBC Sports, who was running the only truly successful division at that time. Mr. Ebersol had been a producer, as had Mr. Ohlmeyer; both men moved from sports programming to entertainment shows. Mr. Wright decided that executives with expertise in how to put a show on television could make superior programmers and division managers.

Having found two producers who could effectively lead divisions, Mr. Wright turned to a third when confronted with the crisis at NBC News in the wake of the "Dateline NBC" fiasco. Mr. Wright recruited Andrew Lack, a longtime producer at CBS News, and Mr. Lack said, "He told me to just go produce the heck out of NBC News." The network news division turned around quickly, largely as a result of Mr. Lack's skilful salvage operation at "Dateline," which expanded to two nights a week, then three and now four.

On the same day in 1993 that Mr. Lack was appointed president of NBC News, Mr. Welch took the crucial step of declaring that NBC was not for sale, trying to put an end to the incessant speculation, both in the press and among stock analysts, that G.E. wanted to escape from a bad investment.

In truth, a deal was almost completed with Paramount in 1992. Mr. Welch now says he intended to sell only a minority interest. But Mr. Wright said: "He was willing to take a minority position. At that juncture, he was concerned whether any of the networks could really make it."

Later, Mr. Welch and Mr. Wright considered sales of interests in NBC to several other companies, including Time Warner and, briefly, Disney, before that company moved on to acquire ABC. "We also looked at Sony," Mr. Wright said, "to see whether we could exchange a piece of the network for a piece of their business." The proposed deal became so complicated, he said, that "nobody could figure out what the point of it was."

Mr. Welch concedes that G.E. was lucky that none of the deals were consummated. "This is not brain surgery," he said. "Sometimes you end up stepping in the right pasture."

But no matter what efforts G.E. made to sell all or part of NBC, the company did not back away from supporting Mr. Wright's plan to diversify. That was clearest in 1991, when the decision was made that NBC had to buy the Financial News Network for CNBC to survive.

"We were in the midst of some very tough times at NBC," said Thomas Rogers, president of NBC Cable. "And it was a very tough sell." At one point, the FNN deal looked dead when a G.E. vice chairman walked out of an NBC presenta-

tion on the purchase. Mr. Welch rescued the idea. "He said, 'Go out and show me that this gets us where we have to be, and I'll support it,'" Mr. Rogers said.

At that point Dow Jones was also bidding for FNN, but NBC concluded that a defeat would mean losing all of the money it had pumped into CNBC. "It was a watershed moment," Mr. Rogers said.

The bidding escalated far beyond what NBC thought the channel was worth. The network eventually paid about \$180 million, including a deal to share profits with the former owners.

Mr. Welch said that once the decision was made to buy FNN and combine it with CNBC, G.E. was determined not to let the deal slip away.

"It was not a brilliant business decision by G.E. to bid \$5 billion more than Dow Jones," said Mr. Welch, whose company's market value is 36 times that of Dow Jones. "But if we get in a public fight we can't go home. You can't have a \$100 billion company walking away from a fight with a popcorn stand."

For Mr. Welch, who subsequently put up \$4 billion of G.E.'s money for Mr. Ebersol to acquire the Olympic rights and \$23 million to buy a broken-down European network called Super Channel, it was a routine practice to back up NBC with G.E. cash when it wasn't making much of its own.

"We can support businesses through change," he said. "It is G.E.'s strength. All our businesses never, unfortunately, are in sync. Treating NBC that way is no different from the way we're treating power systems right now and investing for the future there while they have short-term difficulties. Or the aircraft business, which we supported in the early 1990's when the airlines were in the soup."

Super Channel made sense, he said, simply because G.E. believes so strongly in giving its businesses a global reach. Mr. Welch said it was the very biggest of G.E., previously a source of much of the criticism directed at NBC, that made it possible for NBC to take short-term risks for longer-term gains. "If Super Channel loses a few million for a few years, we make \$7 billion after taxes. We can afford to wait and get it right."

The deal that makes Mr. Welch's pulse race faster now is NBC's alliance with Microsoft to create a challenger to the Cable News Network. "The Microsoft thing has huge momentum and big players," he said, adding that it "could change how we do information."

The chairman's enthusiasm has made it easier for NBC to make fast decisions on big deals, several network executives say. Mr. Ebersol said "it took maybe a minute" for Mr. Welch to agree to commit the money to lock up all those Olympics, even though it amounted to nearly two-thirds of what G.E. paid to buy RCA.

Mr. Welch also played an important role in backing Mr. Lack on creating a new studio for the "Today" show with a window onto Rockefeller Center. It cost \$15 million, exorbitant for a cosmetic change. But Mr. Welch loved the idea, and the change in locale has helped propel "Today" to a leading position in morning television.

Mr. Welch says his role is strictly "cheerleader." Other NBC executives dispute that, saying he stays on top of most developments. "Jack looks everything," Mr. Ebersol said. "He knows about every new show."

Most NBC executives say they also feel quite good about Mr. Wright now. After 10 years on the job, he is widely cited both inside and outside NBC as one of the brightest executives in television.

Howard Stringer, now president of Tele-TV and Mr. Wright's longtime competitor who he was president of CBS, said: "He's done a great job of turning everything around. He's pushed home NBC's advantage. He looks very smart now."

Another senior NBC executive, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said, "Bob enjoys revolutionary, not evolutionary — he wants to lead. People will say he hates the day-to-day stuff, which gives most of us a great deal of autonomy."

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

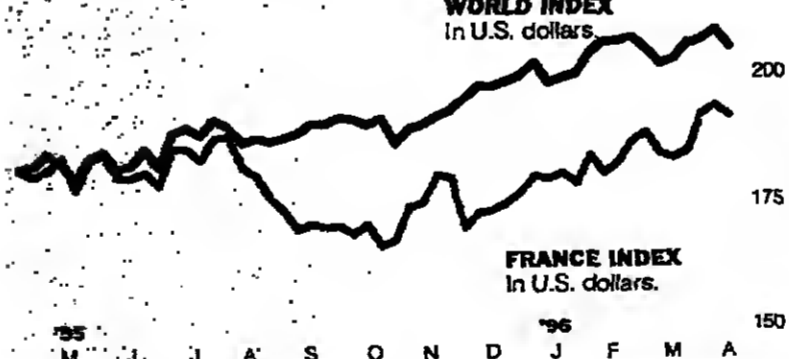
PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS IN LOCAL CURRENCY

Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	% Chg.
Australia	203.97	2.4	2	7.3	10	4.05	171.64	1.0
Austria	182.68	-0.4	10	4.7	14	1.59	142.65	9.9
Belgium	209.05	-0.4	11	-0.0	23	4.11	159.15	4.8
Brazil	153.85	-0.3	9	11.5	3	2.59	280.38	13.6
Britain	230.93	-0.8	16	0.2	22	4.04	226.55	2.9
Canada	159.48	0.4	6	7.4	9	2.39	156.62	8.8
Denmark	295.07	-1.0	19	2.2	19	1.93	232.90	7.0
Finland	175.78	0.7	5	-8.0	26	2.86	173.56	1.8
France	194.19	-1.1	22	8.2	7	3.02	155.49	13.0
Germany	171.46	-0.9	18	4.7	13	1.86	134.04	10.0
Hong Kong	427.23	-2.6	24	10.2	4	3.33	424.16	10.2
Ireland	264.72	-1.1	20	3.6	16	3.47	239.17	8.5
Italy	75.75	3.5	1	2.8	18	2.17	88.99	1.9
Japan	154.39	-0.4	12	-0.3	24	0.72	106.06	5.0
Malaysia	556.02	0.0	7	14.8	2	1.62	539.03	13.6
Mexico	1,241.44	2.2	3	19.9	1	1.37	1,073.16	16.6
Netherlands	289.94	-0.1	8	6.3	11	3.17	222.28	11.4
New Zealand	81.03	-0.9	17	1.7	20	4.30	63.56	-1.7
Norway	244.15	2.1	4	5.6	12	2.43	215.16	8.5
Singapore	441.44	-0.4	13	8.4	6	1.32	297.04	8.1
South Africa	366.27	-1.1	21	-4.9	25	2.54	331.63	8.0
Spain	172.38	-0.8	15	4.4	15	3.37	164.04	8.0
Sweden	335.58	-0.5	14	7.5	8	2.39	333.49	8.9
Switzerland	239.65	-3.1	26	1.6	21	1.56	181.72	7.9
Thailand	183.44	-1.5	23	9.0	5	1.81	180.23	9.6
United States	259.44	-3.0	25	3.3	17	2.23	259.44	3.3

COMPOSITE INDICES

Index	Week % Chg.	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	% Chg.
Europe	206.97	-0.8	3.0	3.02	181.56	6.9
Pacific Basin	187.62	-0.4	1.4	1.16	117.43	5.4
Europe/Pacific	183.91	-0.6	2.2	2.03	141.78	6.1
World	207.76	-1.6	2.7	2.12	178.63	5.0

WORLD INDEX



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the FT Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by the Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Ltd. in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries.

CURRENCIES

Exchange rates	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	108.72	107.65	+0.99	83.30
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.5045	1.4845	+1.35	1.3915
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.3565	1.3568	-0.02	1.3698
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.5140	1.5290	-0.98	1.6040

Sources: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close

April 8-12: The Dow Plunged 150 Points, but the 30-Year Bond Rallied

PRICES

DOMESTIC EQUITIES	Change
Broad market S. & P. 500 index	Down 2.92% 636.71
Blue chips Dow 30 industrials	Down 2.64% 5,532.59
Small capitalization Russell 2000 index	Down 1.08% 331.18

DOMESTIC BONDS

Index	Change
Treasuries Ryan Labs. Total Return	Up 0.40% 184.99
Municipals Bond Buyer Index	Down 0.25% 112.47
Corporates Merrill Lynch Master index	Up 0.48% 793.81

AROUND THE WORLD

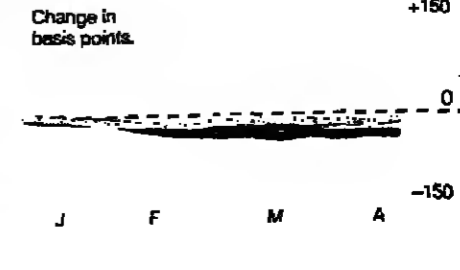
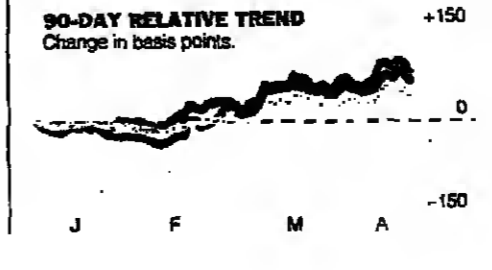
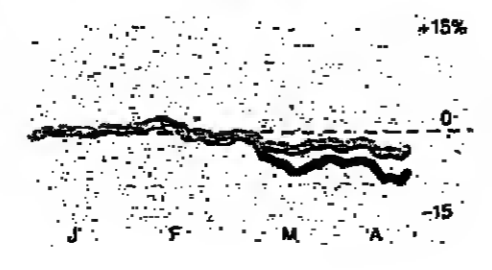
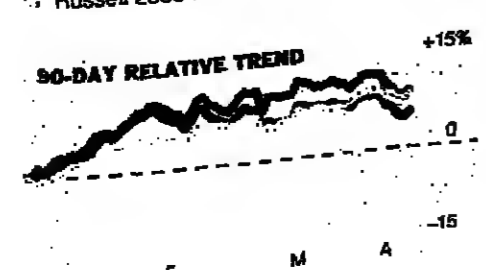
Index	Change
European stocks FT-Actuaries Europe	Down 0.82% 206.97
Asian stocks FT-Actuaries Pacific Basin	Down 0.43% 167.62
Gold New York cash price	Down 0.13% \$397.10

YIELDS

BONDS	Yield
Long bonds 30-year Treasuries	6.79% Down 3 basis pts.
Short bonds 2-year Treasuries	5.92% Down 14 basis pts.
Municipals Bond Buyer index	6.08% Up 2 basis pts.

OTHER INVESTMENTS

Index	Change
Money market funds Taxable average	4.76% Down 3 basis pts.
Bank C.D.'s 1-year small savers	4.78% Up 4 basis pts.
Stocks S. & P. 500 dividend yield	2.26% Up 6 b.p.



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs, IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

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The New York Times

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Pretending to Be Poor

Washington and Albany are threatening to crack down on Medicaid spending for the poor. But there is one part of the health insurance program that neither wants to touch — the blatant and often unethical misuse of the program by well-to-do patients in nursing homes.

These patients exploit legal loopholes to transfer their wealth to their children, thus technically impoverishing themselves and providing themselves with inexpensive nursing home care. What was supposed to be a program for the poor has turned into a boondoggle for everyone else.

Medicaid pays more than 60 percent of the cost of nursing home care. Patients pay their own way — typically between \$3,000 and \$6,000 a month — until they have "spent down" their assets to levels set by Federal and state law. But virtually any family with the means to hire legal advice can transfer savings beyond the reach of Medicaid.

Under one popular technique, nursing home patients transfer their assets to their spouses, who then "just say no" when asked to cough up money for care. Another trick is to exploit a loophole that permits patients to transfer half of their assets to heirs the day they enter a nursing home, putting those assets safely beyond the nursing home's reach.

The first answer to these unethical though legal abuses is for Washington to tighten Federal rules. It could end the ability of spouses to just say no. It could also eliminate yet another loophole by which nursing home patients turn over their assets to their spouses, who then turn them over to an insurance company. These assets then provide the spouse a monthly check, which is counted as the spouse's income and beyond the reach of the nursing home.

The system is a scandal. But even if Washington will not budge — and it shows little inclination to do so — there is plenty that can be done at the state level. New York is under a special burden to turn what are now unethical practices into illegal prac-

tices. Its nursing home costs are the second highest in the country and nearly three times higher than California's.

Gov. George Pataki has several ideas. He would, for example, penalize spouses who refuse to support their mates in nursing homes. He would also curtail a separate abuse involving long-term care at home. So far, the Legislature has refused to go along with these sensible proposals.

Mr. Pataki has appointed a task force, whose recommendations are due next month, to study the problem. Perhaps it will propose correcting another defect in New York's system, which puts local governments in charge of recovering assets of deceased nursing home patients. Experience suggests that state governments do a better job. New York's localities recover a mere 0.4 percent of nursing home costs from estates. Some other states recover more than 2.5 percent. Brian Burwell, who studied Medicaid for the Federal Government, estimates that New York could save hundreds of millions of dollars a year by reforming its Medicaid rules for long-term care.

Many middle-class people resent using money they wanted to leave for their children for nursing home care. But New York is one of several states that has provided a marvelous solution. New Yorkers can purchase a special insurance policy, for about \$2,500 a year in expensive areas like New York City, that covers nursing home expenses for three years. Patients who buy the insurance but stay longer can go on Medicaid without any further reduction in their assets. The state comes out ahead, because very few patients stay longer than three years. Patients come out ahead because they no longer fear losing their savings.

There is no excuse for Washington or Albany to pummel the poor without putting the clamps on the pretend poor. In an ideal world, Congress would move first. But Albany can fix many of the problems itself.

The Iranian Connection

It has been public knowledge for some time that Iran's Islamic regime supplied beleaguered Bosnian forces with arms when the West would not. But it now turns out that in 1994 while the Clinton Administration was publicly defending the United Nations arms embargo against Bosnia, it secretly approved the Iranian arms shipments.

Washington's amideextrous policy was recently disclosed by The Los Angeles Times. Its account makes clear that Washington was inconsistent not only on the embargo but on Iran itself, which the United States has long urged its allies to isolate for exporting terror. Compounding the duplicity, top Administration officials concealed their decisions from Congress and the American people.

Secret diplomacy has legitimate uses, as, for example, when Henry Kissinger prepared the groundwork for President Nixon's historic journey to mainland China. But this unspoken manipulation of American policy toward Bosnia and Iran cannot be justified, even though it helped equalize the military balance and contributed to the Dayton peace agreement.

The Clinton Administration, from the day it took office, favored lifting the United Nations arms embargo against Bosnia, which prevented that country from defending its cities against the siege guns donated by Serbia to the Bosnian Serbs.

But despite the urgings of Senator Bob Dole and others in Congress, the Administration publicly insisted on honoring and enforcing the embargo as long as it remained in place. Europe argued that lifting the embargo would endanger its peacekeeping forces stationed in Bosnia under U.N. command.

Early in 1994, Croatia's President, Franjo Tudjman, informed American diplomats that Teheran was offering to supply rifles, ammunition, mortars, antitank weapons and shoulder-launched surface-to-air missiles through Croatia to Bosnia. He wanted to know if Washington would object. After delib-

erations that included President Clinton, the answer came back that the United States had no policy on the question, which was an oblique way of saying Washington would not object.

By the summer of 1994, Congress was also demanding a lifting of the arms embargo and voted to set a November deadline for the U.N. to act. In October, the Clinton Administration introduced a Security Council resolution calling for an end to the embargo. When the November deadline passed with the embargo still in place, the Administration announced that it would no longer enforce the embargo, although the United States would continue to abide by it. That declaration re-established some consistency in the Administration's policy. But it did not end the deception and left Iran as Bosnia's main arms supplier.

By this time, the C.I.A. had discovered the Iranian operation and asked whether it constituted a covert operation that required formal Presidential approval and notification of Congress. Neither step was ever taken. The Administration took the narrow position that because the United States was only passively tolerating the Iranian shipments, rather than actively supporting them, the whole matter was not a covert American operation.

But if the Clinton Administration thought arming the Bosnians was such a worthy objective, it should have considered other approaches that were more constitutionally straightforward and did not involve Iran.

The Clinton Administration deserves considerable credit for engineering an end to four years of tragic killing in Bosnia and securing a peace agreement. Strengthening Croatian and Bosnian military forces contributed to that achievement. But a more open approach to the arms embargo might have brought the same results without expanding Iranian influence in the region and short-circuiting American democracy.

Commendable Restraint by the F.B.I.

Determined not to repeat the mistakes of Ruby Ridge and Waco, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has adopted a creative, restrained strategy for dealing with members of the Freemen separatist group wanted on criminal charges. This strange, sometimes threatening band of religious bigots and tax scofflaws is hunkered down in farmhouses they have commandeered in rural Montana.

Compared with the F.B.I.'s notoriously impulsive confrontations in years past, this is a downright boring operation, with no forceful showdowns or violent deaths after nearly three weeks. The bureau should keep it that way even if, as may happen, pressures for dramatic action mount. The negotiated surrender last week of two more of the Freemen may relieve some of the pressure from a hostile surrounding community.

The bureau has abandoned the rules of engagement that turned the sieges at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, in 1992 and Waco, Tex., in 1993 into law-enforcement fiascos. In Idaho, an F.B.I. sharpshooter killed the unarmed wife of Randy Weaver, the separatist leader the bureau was seeking. In Texas, the F.B.I. rammed and tear-gassed the compound of the Branch Davidian cult and more than 70 people died.

The F.B.I. deserves no special commendation for behaving in a rational manner. It should have done that before. What deserves praise is the bureau's imaginative deployment of agents and local law enforcement officers around the farmhouses, at distances that give the Freemen no cause to fear imminent attack. This firm but unthreatening attitude sends a message that peaceful surrender is the inevitable end for about 18 remaining fugitives, including 10 under criminal charges. Five people have surrendered since March 25, when the F.B.I. arrested two members who left their shelter.

Some of the local, law-abiding citizens are annoyed by the public expense and the various inconveniences caused by the standoff. They despise the separatists for their laziness (they refused to work their farms, on which the banks have now foreclosed) and for their teachings in general. The Freemen ran seminars on how to evade taxes and defraud the government.

Local resentment could easily rise in the days to come, testing the F.B.I.'s new patience. But time is on the bureau's side. Having squandered that advantage at Ruby Ridge and Waco, the bureau should stick to its present civilized course.

What Separates Hate and Civil Disobedience?

To the Editor:

Re A. M. Rosenthal's "Montana Mistake" (column, April 9): I find it pitiable at best and despicable at worst that people like the so-called Freemen believe that they have all the answers and that the opinions and lives of others are irrelevant.

However, we held in higher regard the opinions of the previous generation, whose unlawful, occasionally lethal actions were labeled "civil disobedience." In those days, intelligent people could see that there was something admirable about burning draft cards, blocking shipments of military goods, seizing campus of-

fices and shouting down those whose views were different.

"Every hate gang allowed to defy the law breeds another," Mr. Rosenthal writes. Indeed. But which are the hate gangs and which the adherents of civil disobedience? Must we see a difference? JOHN HOLS
Spokane, Wash., April 10, 1996

To the Editor:

Re A. M. Rosenthal's "Montana Mistake" (column, April 9): Perhaps, as Mr. Rosenthal suggests, the situation could have been averted had the authorities acted sooner. But, for the patience they are

now exercising, they deserve applause. We have seen the consequences of impetuosity by the police: the beatings of immigrants and motorists; the killing of a boy, his mother and his dog at Ruby Ridge, Idaho; the immolation of blameless children at Waco, Tex.

Keeping the public peace is trying, dangerous work requiring not only fortitude and quick reflexes but also self-discipline. To resist the temptation to administer summary retribution when challenged or defied requires restraint that not many of us could expect of ourselves. Yet we demand it of the police. And in Gardfield County, Montana, law enforcement officials appear to be rising to the occasion. ELIOT PORTER
St. Louis, April 10, 1996

Mules Were Heroes of the Slopes, Too

To the Editor:

Re "A Moment in the Sunset for Heroes of the Slopes" (news article, April 8):

There is an interesting sidebar to your article on the Fifth Army's 10th Mountain Division ski troop combat against the German forces in the craggy, almost unassailable Apennines in northern Italy from December 1944 to April 1945.

Indeed, the division's troops were resourceful and skillful in perhaps the most treacherous terrain in the Army's Mediterranean and European theaters. Yet despite their strength, stamina, courage and resolve, the troops had no resort to mules transported from the United States to haul supplies essential to the campaign.

Few in the 10th Mountain Division would deny that the vital service performed by the mules and "muleteers" who handled the mules (some were Italian volunteers) contributed to the success of the division against



Victor J. Kirsch

the entrenched German soldiers. (I served in the Fifth Army during the same period that the 10th Mountain Division was in Apennine combat.) ALFREDO FEJEA
Bronx, April 9, 1996

The Waco Difference

To the Editor:

Brent Staples (Editorial Notebook, April 6) correctly points out that law enforcement made mistakes in its handling of the cult MOVE in Philadelphia and of the Branch Davidians at Waco, Tex.

The similarities between the two incidents should not overshadow the one overarching difference: the Philadelphia police lit the fire that killed the MOVE members, whereas the Branch Davidians burned down their own compound.

In nearly two weeks of hearings before my House subcommittee, every credible expert agreed that the Davidians were responsible for that conflagration and that the Davidians and their leader, David Koresh, doused the Waco compound with a flammable liquid and lit the fire. CHARLES E. SCHUMER
Member of Congress, 9th Dist., N.Y.
Washington, April 10, 1996

A Chinese Herb And Vested Interests

To the Editor:

Your April 10 news article on the potential dangers of the Chinese herb ma huang should have tied in with earlier articles on the upsurge in methamphetamine use.

Discussing ma huang as an alternative to methamphetamine is comparable to discussing coca paste as an alternative to cocaine, or opium as an alternative to heroin.

Methamphetamine comes from natural or pseudo-ephedrine, the former extracted from ma huang. The primary options for the illicit production of potent versions of methamphetamine require access to ma huang or the extraction of ephedrine from over-the-counter drugs.

The larger issue lies in the vested interests to be challenged should the United States wage war against methamphetamine. The raw materials that could feed the trade include the over-the-counter products of the major pharmaceutical companies.

Paradoxically, America's cocaine addiction may be a major check on the growing problem with methamphetamine. In similar turnabouts, synthetic stimulants displaced cocaine in United States markets in the 1930's, and government crackdowns against stimulants in the 1960's helped contribute to re-emergence of the cocaine trade. H. RICHARD FRIMAN
Milwaukee, April 10, 1996

To the Editor:

Re your April 10 article on ephedra (ma huang): For 25 years I struggled with seasonal respiratory problems, going from one drug to another. Some gave me moderate relief, but all gave me side effects. Then I was introduced to ephedra, which, in small doses, removes my symptoms without side effects.

I am an addictions counselor, so I share the Food and Drug Administration's concern over the marketing of any product as a "legal high." But I am also a 45-year-old adult. Because some marketers are irresponsible, will I have no say in the marketplace? MICHAEL AUSTIN SHELL
Columbia, S.C., April 11, 1996

Marlboro Man Doesn't Deserve Honor

To the Editor:

So the New York chapter of the American Marketing Association is adding the Marlboro brand of cigarettes to its Hall of Fame, the first cigarette so accepted in its 25 years of existence (Advertising column, April 10).

Your same-day edition carries headlines that read "Disputed Documents Could Be Used in Class-Action Suit Against Tobacco Companies," "Smoking Threatens Alcoholics More Than Drink, Study Says" and "Smokers More Likely to Bear-Retarded Babies."

The marketing association's Hall of Fame becomes a hall of shame when we recognize the accomplishments of the purveyors of the only legal product that when used as intended by the manufacturer causes consumer harm. DAN WARDLOW
San Francisco, April 10, 1996

The writer is chairman of the department of marketing at San Francisco State University.

Secondhand Smoke

To the Editor:

Re "Smoking's Pleasures Pale Next to Lung Disease" (letters, April 9):

Not one of your antismoking letter writers, who berate the restaurant columnist James Villas for speaking out against restaurant smoking bans in New York City (Op-Ed, April 6), responds to his statement that a recent Congressional Research Service report "found virtually no significant health risks from exposure to secondhand smoke."

The critics who attacked Mr. Villas have good reason to ignore that report. As stated in a Nov. 29, 1995, editorial in Investors Business Daily, "It's hard to read the C.R.S. report and not conclude that the [Environmental Protection Agency] has badly misled the public on the health effects of environmental tobacco smoke." MARTHA PERSEK
Darlen, Conn., April 9, 1996

To the Editor:

James Villas, in his April 6 Op-Ed

article extolling the virtues of being surrounded by cigarette smoke, misrepresents a Congressional Research Service report on the effects of secondhand smoke.

Its report is a useful independent critical appraisal and a re-analysis of some of the evidence.

However, it is not anywhere near as extensive as a report produced by the Environmental Protection Agency, nor has it been subjected to independent review as has the E.P.A. report.

While the Congressional Research Service avoids any firm conclusions, many public health professionals would be happy to accept it as providing further supporting evidence in favor of the Environmental Protection Agency's findings.

In fact, one author of the report, Stephen Redhead, has been quoted as saying that the Congressional Research Service study does not dispute the E.P.A. findings that secondhand smoke is a class A human carcinogen.

Secondhand smoke is a dangerous substance to which there is no known safe level of exposure. The only people who consistently dispute this finding are those associated with the tobacco industry.

The rights of business owners, or customers who smoke, cannot override the rights of employees and non-smoking customers to have an environment that is free from secondhand smoke. A. J. HEDLEY
CAROL L. BETSON
Hong Kong, April 11, 1996

The writers are, respectively, a professor of community medicine at the University of Hong Kong, and chairwoman of People Acting for a Smokeless Society.

Cold Comfort

To the Editor:

"This is in support of James Villas's 'Cigarettes Make the Meal'" (Op-Ed, April 6).

I read it on a park bench in cold weather while eating a meal I had to take out from a no-smoking restaurant. ILHAN MIMAROGLU
New York, April 6, 1996

Praise Bellevue Hospital, and Don't Sell It

To the Editor:

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, in comments at the dedication of the new Bellevue Hospital Emergency Room (news article, April 11), noted that Bellevue is recognized as the best place to be when emergency care is needed. This recognition of a "New York treasure" should also serve to remind the Mayor, Gov. George E. Pataki and other policy makers that the delivery of emergency medical service is a clinical activity, sponsored by the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, universally recognized as first rate.

Private hospitals in the city have not been known to have much interest in this important but unprofitable endeavor. One private hospital was recently designated a level-one trauma service; all other level-one trauma services are in municipal hospitals. Despite his praise for Bellevue, the

Mayor does not think the City should be in the business of running hospitals. With private hospitals uninterested in running class emergency rooms and facing financial problems, it is time to wonder whether the emergency medical services of the municipal hospitals can become part of the competitive "marketplace." BERTRAND M. BELL, M.D.
Brook, April 11, 1996

The writer is university professor Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

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Tying OSHA's Hands On Ergonomic Rules

To the Editor:

An April 8 Business Day article says the Department of Labor ignored a request from four prominent doctors that it form a task force to develop voluntary guidelines as a compromise to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's proposed ergonomic protection regulation. The department has never received such a request, and no presentation was ever made to Secretary of Labor Robert B. Reich.

Since last summer OSHA has been prohibited by law from issuing a regulation or voluntary guidelines to address workplace-related cumulative trauma disorders. And House and Senate budget proposals for 1996 include similar language that would bar OSHA from even gathering data.

Congressional intent is clear: The agency charged with protecting workers must ignore a problem that affects 330,000 of them. You also refer to OSHA's "shelving" of its draft ergonomics proposal. "Shelving" would require free hands. OSHA's are tied by a Republican Congress driven by special-interest dollars. JOSEPH A. DEAR
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health
Washington, April 10, 1996

Handwritten signature or scribble at the bottom of the page.

Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Foreign Policy Wonk

WASHINGTON There was a time a couple of years ago, somewhere between the debacles in Somalia and Bosnia, when the notion of President Clinton running for re-election trumpeting his foreign policy record would have seemed ludicrous.

Whether this strategy can work will depend almost entirely on events in Bosnia, Korea, Israel, Mexico and Russia—all of which go in the Clinton success column today, but each of which has the potential to explode into a disaster that could baunt the Clinton campaign in November.

On Bosnia, the President insisted that U.S. troops are coming home at his one-year deadline, whether the Dayton peace accord is fully implemented or not.

But what if peacekeepers are needed in Bosnia for more than a year? Would Mr. Clinton be ready to reconfigure the NATO mission, with European NATO members remaining in Bosnia and U.S. forces backing them from outside?

"I would certainly be willing to consider that, if all the parties wanted it," said Mr. Clinton. "We want this thing to work. But it's important that we not become an occupying force—important for them and it's important for us. The willingness of the American people to support endeavors like the one we have undertaken in Bosnia depends in no small measure on their

Clinton's strategy for '96

understanding that there will be a strict limit and that what we are buying for other people is a chance to succeed—not a guarantee.

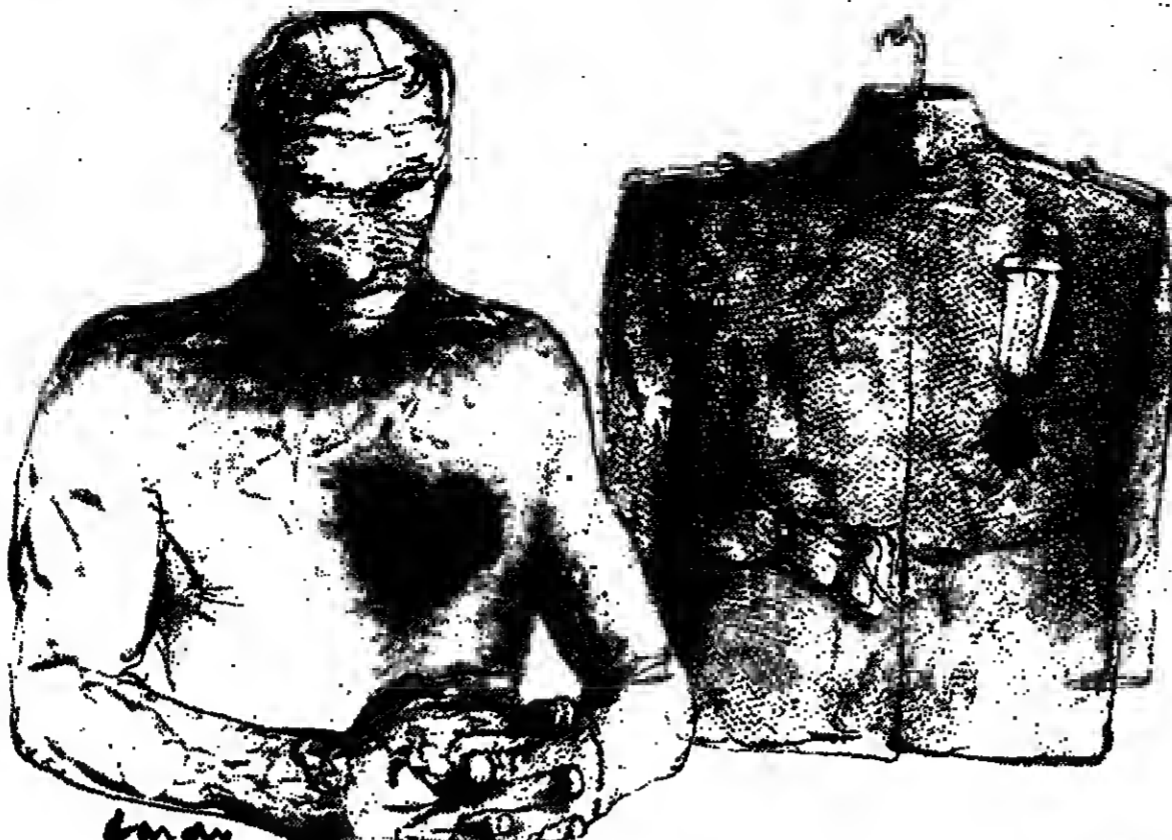
As for his '96 foreign policy campaign, Mr. Clinton suggested his argument will be that after taking office "we had some problems [in Somalia, in Bosnia], we've learned a lot from the problems we had," but eventually addressed them in a satisfactory way.

(Clinton campaign aides say they will also try to make foreign policy a "character" issue that can counter some of the President's personal negatives. They will present him as a man ready to lead, even when it's unpopular, against ungenerous Republicans who pander to the public's worst isolationist moods.)

"If there is a debate about specific [foreign] policies, I will deal with them," said Mr. Clinton, but "I do not intend to run this election primarily against [Bob Dole]. I'm going to try to just say, 'Here's my vision of the world; here's what I've done as President,' and people can make their own judgments."

Forecasting how he will attack the Republicans, the President said: "There are those who believe that the United States should have a very large military that should not do much, who question what we did in Bosnia or Haiti and who don't want to pay our U.N. dues and don't want to invest in the international development funds. That is also a form of isolationism." They say, he added, "We'll be engaged in the world on our own terms only, and whenever we're good and ready, and we want people to help us, like in the Gulf war, but if they need us to help them we probably won't do that."

Trying to anticipate the Republican counterargument, Mr. Clinton said: "Not everything I have done is popular—the Haiti decision wasn't popular. And I am sure you could make an ad which would make a very compelling popular case: 'With all the other needs America has, why should we pay money to the U.N. or invest in these development funds?' But I know you can't keep asking people to follow your lead and trust your example unless you pay your way and show a cooperative spirit. I think I can persuade the American people in the campaign that I'm right, even if, on the specifics, they don't always agree. And that's what I'm gambling on."



Loyalty Betrayed

By Milovan Mracevich

THROUGH ethnic discrimination tacitly approved by its Muslim-dominated Government, the Bosnian Army has "cleansed" its officer corps of almost all non-Muslims.

In June 1992, two months after the outbreak of the war, the Bosnian republic's defense force was 88 percent Croat and 12 percent Serb. The multi-ethnic force was a great political symbol for the Bosnian cause and a powerful argument against the campaign by the Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to portray the Bosnians as mujahadeen.

Many of Bosnia's officers were Serbs and Croats who had held commissions in the Yugoslav People's Army, and they were of great value to the largely amateur Bosnian force. By the end of 1993, however, the number of Serbian and Croatian officers had been reduced to 1 percent for each ethnic group, and Serbs and Croats together made up only 5 percent at most of the Bosnian Army.

A recent article by Djuro Kozar in the Bosnian magazine Svijet describes how competent Serbian and Croatian officers have been forced to retire, have been sent home on extended leave or have been transferred to

Milovan Mracevich is a Canadian journalist and a playwright.

menial assignments. The process began in 1993 when Gen. Rasim Delic, the Bosnian commander, reorganized the defense forces into a professional army. The first prominent victim was Brig. Gen. Stjepan Sibir, a Croatian deputy commander. In the fall of 1993, General Sibir was made military attaché to Switzerland—an astonishing transfer for a country at war. It was expected that another Croat, Brig. Gen. Andjelko Makar, would replace him. But General Makar himself was stripped

Ethnic discrimination in the Bosnian Army

of command and forced to teach at an officer training school.

A particularly ignoble case of ethnic discrimination concerns Brig. Gen. Jovan Divjak, a Serbian deputy commander who became internationally famous while defending Sarajevo. The most highly trained officer in the Bosnian Army, he was marginalized after the creation of the Muslim-Croat federation in March 1994. General Divjak retained the title of deputy commander, but his duties were reduced to that of a "parade general," representing the army at official functions—a job he has endured ever since. His continued presence in the army, even in this degraded capacity, is objectionable to President Alija Izetbegovic, who tried to force him to retire late last year but

Logical Loopholes

By Leo Katz

THINK OF taxes as to think of loopholes, and to think of loopholes is to sneer. Even as we use them, we bristle at how inept, corrupt lawmakers just can't seem to keep the tax code free of them. There wouldn't be any loopholes, we grumble, if only Congress would do its job right.

But as we face tax day tomorrow, we should consider this: Loopholes are inevitable, and what's more they are quite unobjectionable—in taxes and in life.

All of law, not just the tax code, is riddled with loopholes. Say that you wish to bequeath your property to your children instead of your spouse, but the law awards a fixed percentage

We sneer, but we need them—in taxes and in life.

of your estate to your spouse. A lawyer might advise you to give the property to your children while you are still alive.

Or you would like to change your visitor's visa into a green card but seem to have no legal grounds for doing so. Well, you could make political statements that would cause you to be persecuted in your home country and then ask for political asylum.

Yet, as clients gratefully accept advice like this, they too silently sneer, "what a ridiculous system."

And strangely enough, many lawyers talk about legal loopholes the same way the public does. They think legislative oversight or downright incompetence has brought about a mismatch between the letter of the law

Leo Katz, a law professor at the University of Pennsylvania, is author of the forthcoming "Ill-Gotten Gains: Evasion, Blackmail, Fraud and Kindred Puzzles of the Law."

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

The Dream Machine

WASHINGTON It's a familiar story. The Dream becomes a Nightmare. Television logos shifted seamlessly from the Jessica Dubroff Adventure to the Jessica Dubroff Tragedy. Newspaper headlines went from a little girl with a big dream to the death of a little girl and her big dream.

We learn early on, in this business, how to gussy up macabre curiosity as public service.

Ted Koppel interviewed a child psychologist on the issue of parental pressure. Forrest Sawyer asked David Hinson of the F.A.A. about his review of regulations on kids' manipulating airplane controls. "Age is not an issue here," he replied.

Larry King asked 9-year-old aviator Killian Moss about whether Jessica's accident made him fearful of flying. "Um," Killian replied, "it just made me stop and think, like, no more flying through bad weather."

The solemn concern about nutty juvenile stunts comes too late. Before the trip, everyone treated a dangerous gimmick as cute. Jessica was hyped as a 55-pound Amelia Earhart, in her brown leather jacket and "Women Fly" cap, with a red booster seat to help her see over the instrument panel and three-inch aluminum extensions on the rudder pedals.

"You are actually going to take off,

the lovely little girl trying to break a silly record as a heroine. And, though it may be hard to draw the line in a society where people will say and do anything to get on TV, we never should have rewarded Lloyd Dubroff for using his daughter to quench his own thirst for celebrity. This was an inhuman interest story.

It's heart-breaking to watch the tape made just before the fatal Cheyenne takeoff, as Jessica tries to answer a TV reporter's chirpy questions, even as she distractedly looks back at her small plane being pelted by hail and sleet.

People gripe about too much regulation. But there's no minimum age to learn to fly? A child may be called a passenger and there may be a flight instructor with dual controls, but so what? And there's no rule that small planes can't take off in hail and wind shear?

The Guinness Book of Records, not wanting to encourage pushy parents, no longer recognizes the "youngest pilot" category. But who needs Guinness when you've got the networks falling all over themselves?

It is creepy to see the film of Jessica in the cockpit, which her father shot from the back seat with a camera provided by ABC News.

Lloyd Dubroff: What would you do, Jess, if the engine quit right now?

Jessica: I don't know.

A video camera was found in the wreckage.

After the crash, F.A.A. officials sounded disturbingly like N.R.A. and cigarette lobbyists: Any controls would be bad. Young customers are good. This is a free country: "There was ridiculous exploitation of her by the media and her family," said one F.A.A. official, speaking privately. "But we shouldn't have a reaction to that, so that nobody below the age of 15 will ever be able to feel the joy of flight."

The aftermath was surreal. Befitting the age of Oprah, when Jessica's mother was comforted by a pilot who saw the crash and knew that Jessica died too quickly to suffer, the entire exchange was done on camera.

Lisa Blair Hathaway, the mother and "spiritual healer" who raised Jessica in New Age freedom, said her daughter had died "in a state of joy": "She had the room to be, she had the room to choose, she had the room to have her life." Perhaps too much room? Ms. Hathaway urged the F.A.A. to let children fly.

Surely, Jessica is flying. Only angels have wings.

A child abused by celebrity.

By the plane the whole way, and do all the landings as well?" Forrest Sawyer asked on ABC.

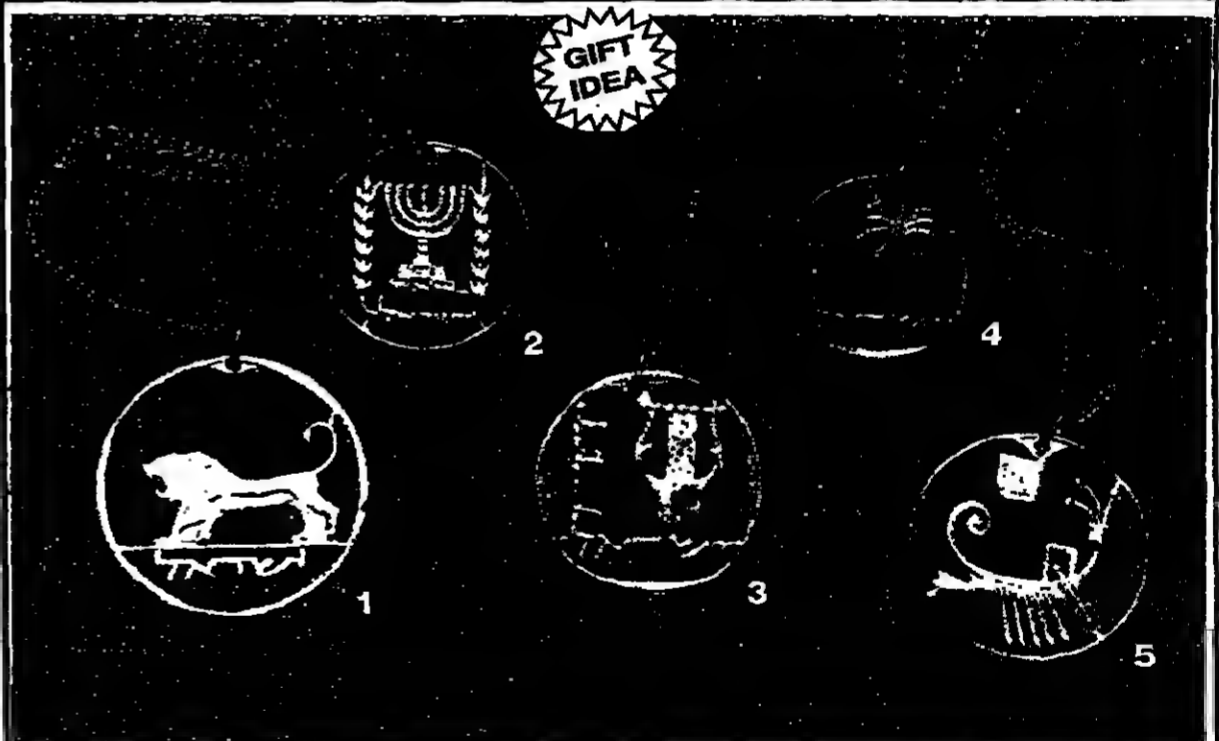
"Yes," she said.

She and her father told reporters it was his idea to have his daughter fly 6,900 miles in eight days. "Out of the blue," he said, "it occurred to me that Jessica could do this."

Why didn't we all just get up and begin screaming? THIS IS CRAZY!!! At 7, you should be taking your first trip around the block on your bike. You should not be expected to have the maturity to tell your immature father and miscalculating flight instructor that the weather looks too icky to take off. Especially when your father is in a rush to arrive in Massachusetts and make NBC's "Today Show."

No, we should never have treated

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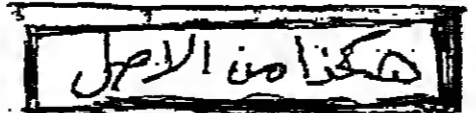
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F I L M

With Video, 'Cut!' Needn't Be the Director's Final Word

By PETER M. NICHOLS

FOR directors, one nice thing about video is the chance it gives them to go back and tinker with their old movies. "It's a subjective business and your perception changes," Oliver Stone said the other day. "Years go by, and you want to recut and change things."

This spring he and another major director, Terry Gilliam, are satisfying that impulse by returning to old films to make "directors' cuts" for tape and laser disk. Not that Mr. Stone is altering his perceptions, at least for now. By restoring 150 trims to his unrelentingly violent and explosively controversial 1994 movie "Natural Born Killers," he is pointedly restating his original notion of the film before it was toned down to get an R rating from the Motion Picture Association of America.

In July, Vidmark will release a tape of the longer "Natural Born Killers" — the story of two young outlaws (Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis) on a killing spree — and Pioneer will issue a special edition on disk. The additions, amounting to about three minutes of running time, put back every fleeting glimpse of murder and mayhem excised to avoid an NC-17 rating, which would have barred children under the age of 17 and limited the film's release in theaters.

"If I'm going to take the heat, let them see what I did, not a compromised version," said Mr. Stone, whose most recent film was "Nixon."

With the extra room they provide for documentaries, interviews, commentary, and other printed and recorded material, special editions are appealing to directors. Mr. Gilliam, whose newest film is "12 Monkeys," has made three of them — "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," "The Adventures of Baron Munchausen" and "The Fisher King" — for the Criterion Collection, a line of laser editions from Voyager, a New York electronic publisher.

At present, he is overhauling "Brazil," his acclaimed 1985 film about the uproarious tribulations of a clerk (Jonathan Pryce) snaggled in the gears of a surrealistic totalitarian society. In the fall, Voyager will release the revised movie along with commentary by the director and a raft of other items drawn from scripts, storyboards and production notes. "I sent them just a trunkful of stuff," Mr. Gilliam said.

The "Killers" laser package will include similar items and a documentary about audience reaction to the film. Charles Kiselyak of Pioneer said studios were more responsive to disk projects than to theatrical re-releases, which are costlier to market. "Special editions make everybody more willing to do a director's cut," he said.

But what constitutes a pure director's cut? Action films and erotic thrillers are sometimes shot with extra scenes of sex and

violence that are left out of theatrical releases but are later pumped into videos, which are then promoted as directors' cuts and issued unrated or perhaps with an NC-17. A true director's cut is the movie the director wants artistically but sometimes isn't allowed because it's too long, too sexy, too violent or too whatever else might displease the studio or perhaps the M.P.A.A. ratings panel.

"Natural Born Killers" was such a case. "I had to deliver an R," Mr. Stone said.

Warner distributed the R-rated film in theaters and on videocassette but turned down Mr. Stone's request to make a director's cut for a new video release and eventually sold the rights to Trimark, Vidmark's parent company. Warner officials won't comment, but the studio is said to have backed away last summer after a speech by Senator Bob Dole that characterized "Natural Born Killers" and other films and gangsta rap recordings as "nightmares of depravity."

Mr. Dole, of course, was referring to the R-rated "Natural Born Killers." Mr. Stone describes the more violent version as a fulfillment of his original artistic intention. The purpose, he said, was to depict a society saturated with extreme violence, and the way to do that palatably was to exaggerate situations so they became almost comical. But to get the R, bits of gore and chaos were whittled throughout, and that, Mr. Stone said, threw off the rhythm and undermined integrity.

"Philosophically, it unbalanced the film," said Hank Corwin, one of the movie's two editors. "They were trying to take out violence, but what they were doing was eliminating elements that made it more of a satire."

Artistic distinctions notwithstanding, Mr. Dole and other critics are not likely to be assuaged by the new "Natural Born Killers," which, among many tiny restorations of assault and bloodshed, incorporates graphic scenes of torture and death during a prison riot. This includes the dismemberment of the warden, played by Tommy Lee Jones.

Again, Mr. Stone said, the intent was satiric: "It's the apocalypse; the world is coming to an end. He's impaled. All his limbs come off. It's very funny, actually — throwing them up in the air." Such touches, he added, make the movie more ridiculous and comedic. "People think there's no humor in this film. You'd have to be on another planet to think that."

But he also acknowledges the effect "Natural Born Killers" can have on people. "The most pacifistic people in the world said they came out of this movie and wanted to kill somebody," Mr. Stone said, adding that the experience at least made them realize that they, too, possessed feelings of aggression.



Robert De Niro, in the mask, and Jonathan Pryce in "Brazil"—Restoring what was deemed too long.

Just last month, the uncut "Natural Born Killers" was banned in Britain after 16 young children and a teacher were gunned down at a school in Scotland.

However one regards the new video, it gives back to Mr. Stone the movie he originally made. Two years ago he compromised only to avoid trouble, for all the good it did him. "Once a film gets plagued by the concept of trouble, it doesn't help," he said. "Brazil" comes to mind.

Not as notorious as "Natural Born Killers" certainly, "Brazil" is no stranger to controversy. "It's a hot potato, always has been," Mr. Gilliam said. Ordinarily, he explained, he leaves his movies pretty much alone, but this one is an exception. The Voyager special edition will mix parts of two versions of "Brazil," one released in Europe, the other in America. To Mr. Gilliam, though, the laser disk won't be the film's first director's cut; he had approved both versions 10 years ago, making each a director's cut. "It seems to me that if a film has your name on it, that's the director's cut," he said. "I'll stand by the American version as much as the European."

Scenes that played abroad were dropped from the American movie and vice versa. In a noted row with Universal, the distributor, Mr. Gilliam shortened the film as required but balked when asked to provide a happy, or happier, ending. Universal then refused to release the movie, relenting only after Los Angeles critics voted it the best picture of the year.

So far the Voyager restoration project is on course. "There are a lot of physical pieces — soundtracks, negatives — that are all supposed to be stored together but get scattered when you start making prints for different countries," Mr. Gilliam said. "Some of them are missing already, and this is a film that was made only 12 years ago. That's what's frightening about films. They're much more delicate than people think they are. Studios are constantly selling them, but when buyers start digging out what they think they've bought, it won't be there."

In the case of "Brazil," however, what Voyager needs is available and in good condition. Karen Stetler, who is supervising the special edition, has been in London help-

ing Mr. Gilliam fit together pieces of his choosing that will go onto the master tape and then be transferred to disk. "Twelve years actually isn't that long in terms of film preservation," Ms. Stetler said. "Everything has been properly stored. The color is gorgeous. Backup elements are nice and pristine."

The disk includes a scene from the European ending, cut to shorten the American movie, in which the clerk is charged a fee for his own interrogation and torture. "The film began with this idea about 17th-century witch trials where you were charged for every fingernail they tore out and for every bundle of fagots they used for your burning," Mr. Gilliam said. "That's the good thing about these laser editions — getting this back on disk. They are really the best archive that exists out there because of the care and kind of detail devoted to them. They put a lot more effort into them than the studios do."

For now, though, the director is choosing his scenes. "I think I'll start American," he said, "the camera flying through the clouds."

Children's Books on Film

By ELLEN PALL

WHEN Walt Disney Pictures turns to Victor Hugo for the source of its annual summer mega-release (the animated "Hunchback of Notre Dame" will succeed "Pocahontas" at a theater near you this June) and sinks \$40 million into a live-action recycling of its animated 1961 classic "101 Dalmatians" (slated to scamper across hundreds of screens at Thanksgiving), is it safe to cooledge every great children's book has already been made as a movie?

One thing is sure: More favorite children's books have been given the red-carpet treatment on screen in the last three years than in the previous 20. Major film productions of "The Secret Garden" and "The Adventures of Huck Finn" in 1993 were followed by lush versions of "The Jungle Book," "Black Beauty," "Little Women," "A Little Princess," "Babe: The Gallant Pig" and "Jumanji" in the next two years. On Friday, with much fanfare, Disney released a film of Roald Dahl's 1961 classic "James and the Giant Peach"; it will be followed in the coming months by cinematic treatments of, among other books, Dahl's "Matilda" and Louise Fitzhugh's "Harriet the Spy."

No, it's not a giant conspiracy engineered by the American Library Association in cahoots with Bob Dole. To some extent, the upsurge in films based on children's books is only one piece of a larger phenomenon: Family films of all kinds have been flowing out of Hollywood like a river of Hershey's syrup ever since "Honey, I Shrank the Kids" and "The Little Mermaid" in 1989, followed by "Home Alone" in 1990, demonstrated there was a huge audience for movies both adults and children could enjoy.

True, "E.T." demonstrated the same thing in 1982. But at that time, people born at the peak of the baby boom — that 400-pound gorilla of demographics — were only in their mid-20's. Not until the early 90's did the bulk of the boomers reach an age at which they were taking children to the movies. Both more child-oriented and entertainment-oriented than their own parents, boomers seem to have an insatiable appetite for family activities. As David Vogel, president of Walt Disney Pictures, explained, the spate of family films is partly an attempt to supply the demand. "The biggest generation is heading and growing its children," Mr. Vogel said, adding happily, "and

Studio heads loved the tales as children; now, they're making the movies.

we'll be there into the early 2000's." The moment is especially propitious for book-based movies because many studio boomers, like other career-oriented boomers, had children late. While in the old days, a film executive's children were often grown by the time he rose to authority, today, a studio vice president may well read to a child at night, then go off the next morning and green-light a project.

And it probably doesn't hurt that that vice president these days is more likely than before to be a mother. Women in film are reluctant to say flatly that they are more interested in children's stories than men are, but some will admit they're probably less interested in, say, the Mafia. At the least, the rise of women to power has been the force behind the tide of films based on classic girls' books. Mary Kay Powell, the producer of "Harriet the Spy," credits "constant calls" from women executives who loved the book in childhood with goosing her to put it into production. Deoise Di Novi, who produced "Little Women" before making "James and the Giant Peach," said "a collusion of women" in film made the Alcott project happen.

There are other reasons for the upsurge in family film making. Child-reo devour videos, and video rentals — and, more important, sales — are far more likely to compensate for a poor box-office take on a children's film than a grown-up flop. And, if a film is a hit, children go again and again. Besides, there's the merchandising. Who wants a "Dead Man Walking" tippie cup? Entertainment-based merchandising to children last year generated more than \$10 billion in retail sales.

The money matters. "Little Women" grossed over \$50 million, "Babe" more than \$60 million (and counting) and "Jumanji" more than \$94 million.

"Till recently, people thought children's movies were soft," said Catherine Hand Odell, a producer currently developing "A Wrinkle in Time" for Miramax. (Madeleine L'Engle's beloved science-fiction classic has been popular with young people ever since its publication in 1962.) "Now look. Disney bought

To a producer hoping to make a family film, a classic children's book is an attractive starting point. It has proven appeal. It has name recognition. And many conglomerates have both film and book-publishing arms. A film based on a book may occasion a reissue, a novelization, an adaptation for younger readers and souvenir tie-ins. (Books in the public domain are also free, though what a studio saves in royalties it may lose in product placements. Jo March didn't wear Nikes.)

So children's book authors are rolling in loot, while film producers scour the bookshelves in vain, right? Not exactly. New books for children about children are still a hard sell unless the story is "high concept," said Gail Hochman, a literary agent with several noted children's authors on her list. Ms. Hochman has plenty of Hollywood clout: she represents the best-selling adult author Scott Turow, among others. But while a new book for adults can generate buzz, "a kid's book — it's just harder," Ms. Hochman says.

Even the Newbery Medal, the most coveted prize in children's publishing, is only mildly interesting to a producer who will invest millions of dollars in a project. (This year's medal winner, "The Midwife's Apprentice," by Karen Cushman, has not yet been optioned for film, or has last year's winner, "Walk Two Moons.")

Indeed, in some ways, the world views of Hollywood producers and children's authors seem hopelessly divergent. Fifteen years ago, when Ms. L'Engle sold an option for "A Wrinkle in Time" to Norman Lear, she noticed a not-uncommon clause in the contract that gave his company rights to the film "in perpetuity throughout the universe."

"So, I took a red pen," Ms. L'Engle remembered, "and I made an asterisk and I said, 'with the exception of Sagittarius and the Andromeda Galaxy.' Well, believe it or not they had a serious meeting with the lawyers, in case I knew something they didn't. So you're dealing with another planet."

Even on the same planet, there are hard business reasons for children's writers to be wary of Hollywood. While sales of a new book for grown-ups peak and drop off, a true children's classic sells well year after year. Of the top 10 titles on Publishers Weekly's list of all-time best-selling hard-cover children's books, the most recent — two Dr. Seuss books — were published 36 years ago. Authors worry that a good film could replace the book, hurting sales, while a poor one might actually alienate a new generation.

CENTENNIALS

BY HENRY HOOK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Prono
- 4 Letterman's turf
- 7 Pretty, in ancient Rome
- 12 Summerhouse
- 18 Perfume label word
- 19 Clinton Cabinet member
- 21 Wanted poster datum
- 22 Rant about
- 23 Sch. grp.
- 24 Headline of January 1896
- 27 Chair style
- 29 Excite, in slang
- 30 Some people take a shine to it
- 31 "Peter Pan" dog
- 32 Be of importance, old-style
- 34 Public relations concern
- 37 Yawner's feeling
- 39 Quaff introduced in 1896
- 42 Cordage grass
- 46 Pouch
- 47 "Yippee!"
- 48 They're helpless
- 50 Corn byproduct
- 51 Hardly gregarious
- 52 Office holder?
- 55 Neighbor of B.C.
- 56 The — Reader (1990's magazine)
- 57 Richie's dad, to Fonzie
- 58 1896 dramatic work
- 62 Marquand sleuth
- 64 Cheek-related
- 66 Longtime Philly conductor
- 67 Architect L.M.
- 68 "Not that again!"
- 70 Wearer of pointy footwear
- 71 Unisex garb
- 78 Gunk
- 78 Washington Monument, e.g.
- 80 Soap Box Derby site
- 81 1851 Lanza role
- 84 Her advice column debuted in 1896
- 87 Oklahoma city
- 88 Book after Joel
- 89 Bed size
- 91 Dutch treat
- 92 Jam ingredient?
- 93 Book course
- 94 Yellow Sea port
- 98 Skedaddled
- 100 "The Birth of a Nation" grp.
- 101 Product of the rumor mill
- 103 1896 event, absent since A.D. 394
- 107 "All — is the Girl" ("Gypsy" song)
- 109 Shouted
- 110 Thorough
- 111 Patches things up?
- 114 Antlered beasts
- 118 Individual

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127						128				129							130
131						132							133				134

115 Green-skinned pear	20 Start of the "flying down" song	79 Marlowe contemporary	104 Incubator noise
121 It was the talk of Chicago, July 1896	25 Doorframe part	81 A little lower	105 Sluggard
126 Stomach muscles	26 Square	82 "What — mind reader?"	106 Chaps
127 Yeast	28 N.R.C. forerunner	83 Campus mt. grp.	108 "The Dancing Class" artist
128 Bye at the French Open?	33 He played TV's Mike Hammer	85 Jeanne	111 Rumble reminder
129 Nonpayment result	35 Prizn, e.g.	86 Erstwhile larva	112 Piscivorous flyer
130 Boulogne business abbr.	36 Wet wiggler	90 Nowhere near	113 Practice
131 Give the same old story	39 "Oklahoma" star author	94 Shipping unit	115 Pop
132 Goalie's stats	40 "The Bronx Zoo" author	95 Mom's specialty	117 Satellite broadcast
133 Aachen article	41 Explorer Amundsen	96 Scottish river	119 Last writer?
134 Chess pcs.	43 Old Sunday paper section	97 Casus (legal situation)	120 Versatility list
DOWN	44 Salon application	99 Hogan dwellers	122 Eric Canal mule
1 Invigorates, with "up"	45 Remedy for dry toast	102 Something to soze at	123 Actress Ullmann
2 Appointment	46 Super Bowl XXI M.V.P.		124 Inferior mark
3 First Ford auto, completed in 1896	49 In a bad way		125 Number-cruncher
4 Brittle	53 Equi-		
5 Put on the line	54 In accordance with		
6 Catch	56 Inuit craft		
7 Tropical trees	58 Small combos		
8 Ivy League	59 Muslim bigwig		
9 Kind of algebra: abbr.	60 Noted name in wine		
10 Colleen	61 Out of shape		
11 Soap title start	63 Stop worrying		
12 Tradables introduced in 1896	65 Black —		
13 Sports org.	69 & 72 Snacks introduced in 1896		
14 Youth-and-old-age, e.g.	73 Brownies		
15 Literary pseudonym	74 Lewis Carroll's Boojum		
16 Kind of companion	78 Valhalla V.L.P.		
17 Choreographer	77 Beath		
White	78 Yon maiden		

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BOUCE	STEN	ASAP	ACED
AREAS	OVOTO	EABL	WAMA
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ASABANA	MAICA	MAENED	
LANSTHETUN	SSLOWCY		
LOST	YAD	STIVES	
AXONS	GLACIS	EDITORS	
PERPETUAL	IN	COFFE	
PVE	NOV	ALIOUS	LEON
ENTIRE	BJARD	THE	BEAVER
RAMAPO	DOESN		
FAMILY	SECRET	ASLEEP	
ALEX	SCORE	RED	TEA
RELIC	THRAGE	OF	ADACTING
RELEASE	DOTTE	FOCENE	
SCRAP	TEC	ITILEA	
BUFFERING	UCGOT	TASH	
ARTISO	KAROL	COOTIES	
LINOR	ONALEVE	OF	ACCENCE
SENT	GERT	EASEL	EXTRA
ALIAS	ETIAS	YONA	STOUT

Video Lisa

Back trek across the Negev

Residents and academics spent Pessah reconstructing the 1945 camel tour in which Jews broke the British ban on entering the Negev. Liat Collins hitched along

IN these days of air-conditioned jeeps there are few good reasons to cross the desert by camel. Nostalgia is one of the better ones.

It was a request to retrace the past and chart the future that took a band of Negev residents and local academics on a tour during the Pessah vacation. The group was reconstructing the trip taken by Palmahniks and Hano'ar Ha'oved youths in January 1945 in which they mapped the area and noted water sources and natural phenomena in the southern Negev, an area ruled out-of-bounds to Jews by order of the British Mandate.

That trek ended with the British arresting most of the group, but the written material being hidden in milk pails on the side of the camels. The information gathered was considered crucial in helping the IDF conquer Eilat (Umm Rashrash) four years later.

This year's group set off April 4 with equal enthusiasm and far more publicity than the original group. Much of the media attention was generated by the presence of Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who 51 years before had been one of the initiators of the original project in his role as secretary general of the Hano'ar Ha'oved youth movement.

In those days he was still called Shimon Persky and it was reportedly on this tour that he changed his name to Peres, after professor of zoology Heinrich Mendelssohn pointed out the splendid vulture ("Peres" in Hebrew) which then ruled the skies.

Peres wrote after the trip: "The group numbered 14 people and

included among others, scouts and experts on topography, biology and settlements. The tour was meant to last one month and was allocated 300 lirot... 150 lirot were budgeted by the Chairman of the Jewish Agency David Ben-Gurion and 150 lirot by Yitzhak Sadeh, the Palmah commander.

The plan was to begin at Bir Asluj [today's Revivim], to cross the length and breadth of the Negev, to reach Umm Rashrash and return. The Negev was considered a military zone and it was forbidden to enter without a permit... With us on the trip were 12 camels (five for supplies and seven for riding) which were led by their Beduin owners.

This year, no vultures were seen. They are all but extinct in the area and today's travelers seeking inspiration for a name change might have to stick to the gazelles and wild asses. But although the only British present now are tourists, much of the area is still out of bounds, being used for IDF training exercises.

"The Negev is no longer an unknown area but comprises almost half of the State of Israel," said Sefi Hanegbi, one of the initiators of the Pessah trek.

"As such, it is exposed to many problems of land use by the IDF, industry, housing, needs, nature protection, and tourism. This reconstruction offers us a chance to re-examine the Negev and make the public aware of the issues and problems. We have to find a way of striking a balance between the different needs."

The trip cost far more this time, NIS 300,000 instead of IL 300. The Jewish Agency came up with



Sefi Hanegbi (center right) and Rami Haruvi (on camel) prepare for the trek with the help of Revivim member Yehuda Dror.

part of the funding and the rest was raised by a number of different groups including the Negev Tourism Development Board and the Negev Regional Council.

Unlike the first tour, the costs included a team to film the journey and expensive jeeps, which made life easier for both hikers and camels by carrying many of the heavier supplies.

Hanegbi, who changed his name from Gilderman to "Man of the Negev," is a founder of the Shabarut settlement and operates a camel riding and desert tours company. The other main force behind the trail was tourism planner and Negev resident Rami Haruvi.

The idea for the reconstruction came to Hanegbi when he was researching ways of following the ancient Spice and Perfume Route from Oman to Gaza. "I was very impressed with the story. It was the first example of Israeli hutzpa I had ever found recorded," he says.

The daring trip ended prematurely when the group was caught by British in Umm Rashrash after

leaving their camels to rush down to the sea. It is easy to see why the sight of the water would excite a group that had spent 11 days struggling without water supplies in terrain so treacherous that even the camels found parts difficult to cross.

THE NATURE of camels has not changed. They remain the bloody-minded, bad-tempered, reluctant beasts of burden of which Peres wrote:

"A first encounter. The camels are apathetic, stretching their long necks here and there. The bravehearted make their first attempt at mounting the hump."

"The camel rises on its back legs and throws the inexperienced rider forward. The rider does not despair. With greater force he grabs the saddle, but the camel will do as it wants. This time it rises on its front legs and throws the hero back."

The jovial riders, each with their own story and reasons for joining the trail, are reminiscent of an Israeli version of the travelers in Chaucer's *C Canterbury Tales*. They

include a zoologist, geologist, archeologist and biologist.

For many it is a chance to recapture the feeling of youth outings or army hikes as much as a professional pull which brings them to the heart of the desert. At every stop, each sees something else. Geologist Ron Avni will pick up a stone; biologist Hagar Leschner identifies the insect underneath; and archeologist Ze'ev Zivan tell the history of what the stones were used for in the past.

An instant intimacy forms among people who travel nearly 30 kilometers a day by foot or camel and sleep side by side without the benefits of a hot shower before bed.

At a time when most desert hikers are singing songs around the campfire, this group was swapping information, impressions and knowledge. These were the type of people who not only noticed the comet which appeared to travel with them in the night skies but could actually explain it.

There is a magic to the desert that compensates for the difficulties. It is easy to appreciate

Kaplan's description: "We traveled on our way in a camel caravan. The monotonous steps allowed us to look around us. We forgot a lot on this trip. The Negev swallowed us up..."

Today's travelers are also allowed the freedom to contemplate. The ever-present mobile phones do not have reception here. It is nature's way of telling us to slow down and forget the real world for a while.

Some people don't get the message. Tire tracks from ATVs and jeeps driven by discourteous tourists mark the areas off the path creating the desert equivalent of urban graffiti.

Other troubles also impinge. Every day a panel of notables gathered in the desert to discuss with the participants some of the problems: rock quarrying versus wilderness; nature protection versus tourism; settlement versus landscape; and military needs against all.

At least one of the discussions is a historic gathering in its own right. Five former OCs Southern Command, including former pres-

Shimon Peres's leading role

AT the end of January 1945, *Davar* printed the following item from "a Beersheba informant":

"Yesterday the deputy regional governor, Mr. Oxford, heard the case of 14 friends who reached Aqaba by traveling through a protected area [an area in which the English have forbidden the entrance of Jews] and who do not possess a permit from the military governor."

"Twelve of the friends were fined eight lirot each; and two, Dr. Mendelssohn, the director of the Biological-Pedagogic Institute in Tel Aviv and Shimon Persky, who was responsible for the trip, were fined 12 lirot each or sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment instead."

"Giving the stiff penalties, the deputy regional governor said that Dr. Mendelssohn, as a cultured man, should have read the newspaper publications [on the ban] and that Persky was responsible for the trip and for bringing the people to a forbidden place."

"The friends were arrested when they arrived in Aqaba by riding on camels. They were detained and then returned to Beersheba via the Sinai Desert. Members of Beit Eshel cared for the group during their detention and paid their fines."

"This is the first time a group of Jewish youths including members of Hano'ar Ha'oved have scouted in the distant Negev." L.C.

ident Chaim Herzog, met to discuss the demands of the IDF, which uses some 70 percent of the area as a firing zone and training area.

"Such meetings are valuable. There are two main questions: 'how' and 'who.' The 'how' refers to being sensitive and open to listening to all parties," says Haruvi.

"The 'who' is also important and such trips such as ours can help. A farmer from a moshav might know a lot about agriculture, even desert agriculture, but not appreciate other aspects of desert life and needs. This trip is helping us learn to speak the same language."

French hunters must protect, not plunder birds just passing through

EARTHLY CONCERNS
DYVORA BEN SHAUL

ECONOMIC problems and currency standardization aren't the only issues that lead to heated debates in the European Union these days. France is stirring up quite a row now over hunting laws which the EU has been trying to standardize since its inception.

Throughout Europe, a hunting law has been accepted that decrees that all bird and waterfowl hunting must cease at the end of January when the migratory birds start to make their way back to their nesting grounds in Europe from their winter feeding grounds in North Africa and the Middle East. This date was set to protect migratory birds from being hunted while in transit.

However, France wants to extend the hunting season into February for 20 days for plentiful species and 10 days for rarer birds. France already has the longest hunting season in Europe - some five months - but the 1.5 million French hunters are adamant about wanting to hunt well into February.

This plan looks simple on paper, but most wildlife experts say it cannot be enforced. A survey showed that more than 60 percent of the French holders of hunting permits were unable to correctly identify a bird in flight and even fewer could make a proper identification in the early dawn light

or at dusk, when most shooting takes place. In fact, 22 percent of the licensed hunters failed to identify a bird after they had shot and bagged it.

Given this, Maartje van Putten, a European Parliament member from the Netherlands, says it is absurd to extend the hunting season according to species.

"It would be," she says, "a dangerous precedent to modify European hunting legislation to satisfy the demands of member countries which have long disobeyed the laws that are in effect."

The matter has special significance because vast numbers of migrating birds pass through France before returning to their nesting grounds throughout Europe. As much as two-thirds of the European bird population stops in France (as they do in Israel) during their annual migrations. But in Israel, the hunting laws are strict.

As these birds are in passage, no host country has the right to treat them as a national resource to be plundered. A migratory bird's death en route to its breeding ground means there will be several fewer birds of that species in the next migration.

Since France is merely by a temporary host to these birds, most EU members feel that France should recognize this position and help to protect, rather than plunder, its guests.

Demolitions are 'deterrence, not punishment'

LAW REPORT
ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the Supreme Court, before the President Justice Aharon Barak, in the matter of Rivhi Said Sharif, applicant, versus the IDF commander in Judea and Samaria, respondent (F.H.C. 2161/96). Rivhi Said Sharif applied to the president of the Supreme Court to direct a rehearing of the petition in H.C. 1740/96, which was dismissed on March 19, 1996 (as reported last week).

THE PRESIDENT said, in his decision, that the applicant's son had handed the explosives to the suicide bomber in the attack on a bus on route 26 in Jerusalem on August 12, 1995, killing four people, injuring 103, and causing grave damage to property. He was a leading member of Hamas. His family had helped him after the attack, and had been in constant contact with him since.

The commander, he continued, had ordered the demolition of part of a house which was the son's permanent home, leaving another unit, occupied by a married brother and his family, untouched. The commander had also consulted other defense authorities, receiving the confirmation of the defense minister and the chief of the general staff.

The basis of the commander's orders, he said, was a new situation created by Hamas's terrorist activities, more particularly a series of attacks by suicide bombers on February 25, 1996, and March 4, 1996, resulting in the death and injury of many innocent people. The

commander, he said, had decided that the necessity of taking stern and immediate deterrent measures against growing unbridled terrorism outweighed the injury caused by demolishing the houses of those who assisted the terrorists.

Justice Barak then cited section 30(b) of the Courts Law (Consolidated Version) of 1984 which empowers the Supreme Court president to direct a further hearing "if the rule laid down in the matter by the Supreme Court conflicts with a rule previously laid down by it or if, in view of the importance, difficulty, or novelty of a rule laid down in the matter, there is, in his opinion, room for a further hearing."

Citing several precedents and extracts from the above judgments, he held that the conditions laid down by section 30(b) had not been fulfilled. The submissions of applicant's counsel relating to identifying the terrorist's lodgings, the degree of damage, delay, the causal connection between the crime and the sanction, collective punishment, discrimination between Jews and non-Jews, "acts of war" and "time of war" had all been considered by the court. This case presented nothing new. There was no discrimination in the commander's decision.

Justice Bach had emphasized that the demolitions were an act of deterrence, and not pun-

ishment. Justice Cheshin had referred explicitly to a state of war in an informal sense, as distinguished from a formal declaration of war involving the Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilians in Time of War. Counsel had referred to the Basic Law: The Dignity and Freedom of Man, of 1992. It was true the Defense Regulations conflicted with the Basic Law, but section 10 of the Law preserved their validity. At the same time section 8 of the Basic Law demanded that a violation of rights - in this case property rights - shall be "to an extent no greater than required."

The security experts informed the court that the measures taken were commensurate with the terrorists' excesses. The cold-blooded murder of innocent people was a most serious act which called for the most serious response. The terrorist's family had assisted him. Nevertheless the commander had also left an independent unit in the house occupied by the terrorist's brother and family untouched.

Justice Cheshin had written of the judge's uneasiness in dealing with a case such as this. State authorities occupied a high status, and it was the duty of the court, itself a state authority, to review the acts of officers. The court had to ensure the rule of law, which stood above us all. For the above reasons, the application was refused. The judgment and the president's decision were given on March 19, 1996.

This is the second of two parts.

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The dates: Sunday, May 12 - Wednesday, May 15 The price: US\$295 Includes: A/C bus from Tel Aviv/Jerusalem and return, desert jeep travel, 3 nights at the Nueiba Hilton, 3 hotel breakfasts, 1 hotel dinner, (in a double room), 3 hotel dinners, services of an 2 picnic lunches, 1 Bedouin dinner, services of an English speaking guide and Egyptian escort, and all entrance fees.	The dates: Departure Monday, July 15; return Monday, July 22 The price: US\$1930 per person (with double room occupancy) Includes: return flight by El Al, use of special safari vehicles with viewing platform, 7 nights in first-class hotels and safari lodges, full board (breakfast only, during two stays in Nairobi), experienced tour guide English-speaking Zoologist, Uz Meiboom. All entrance fees.	The dates: Departure, Wednesday, June 5; return June 17 The price: US\$2,112 per person (with double room occupancy) Includes: international return flights by Air Malta, 12 nights half-board accommodation in 5 star hotels or superior tourist accommodation in the Sahara region, travel in air-conditioned coaches, all entrance fees, services of experienced English-speaking guide, and local guides.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday, April 15, 1996

Trade deficit hits \$3 billion in first quarter

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE national trade deficit during the first quarter reached \$3 billion, after March imports exceeded exports by \$920 million, the Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday.

During the first three months of the year, imports totaled \$7.7b. while exports were \$4.7b. Last month, imports reached \$2.62b. and exports \$1.7b.

Last year's record-setting trade deficit was just higher than \$11b., which means that judging by the first quarter the economy has yet to stem the accelerated pace of imports.

However, while monthly growth between June and September 1995 was between three percent and 5%, the trade deficit expanded on average by 2% every month since last year's fourth quarter.

Particularly notable among the components of imports over the second half of 1995 and this year were investment assets, which grew monthly by 1.5%-2.6%. Imports of consumer goods grew on average by 2% a month, and raw materials by 1%.

Debtors' payment morality rising

Jerusalem Post Staff

LOCAL debtors' payment morality was rising compared with that of Europeans, according to data recently presented at a conference organized for the Federation of European Credit Management Associations, a professional conference in Belgium.

According to the data, Israel's payment morality remained stable in the first three months of the year, compared with the corresponding period in 1995, with an average delay in payment of 37 days.

Most European countries' payment morality was on the decline, as measured by the average number of days payments are delayed.

Even so, Israelis continued to show one of the lowest payment

morality rankings compared with other countries.

Eyal Yanai, general manager of Business Data Israel and founder of the Israel Institute for Credit Management, said Germany and England have suffered the worst decline in payment morality.

In Germany, the average delay in payment has increased to 29 days from 20, while in England the delay has risen to 32 from 26.

Holland has the best payment morality, with an average delay in payment of 19 days, followed by Belgium - where the average delay is 20 days. Italy had the worst payment morality, with an average delay in payment of 41 days followed by Israel.

Gilo passive after Recanati buys more Scitex shares

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

IGH-TECH entrepreneur David Gilo does not plan to purchase Scitex shares on the open market, despite the purchase last week of an additional \$4.2 million worth of the beleaguered company's stock by the Recanati group, one of Scitex's three major shareholders, sources close to the California-based Israeli entrepreneur said yesterday.

The Recanati family, in partnership with IDB Development and PEC Israel Economic Group, increased its holdings in Scitex to 24.53%, representing 10.41 million shares on April 9-10, in what seems to be the first actual move against Gilo's hostile takeover bid for Scitex.

The group purchased 225,000 Scitex shares for \$19.12 - \$18.83 per share.

The remaining major shareholders

ers in Scitex - Clal Electronics Industries and International Paper Company - have not yet taken any actual measures to avoid a takeover besides the release of an announcement to say they are not interested in Gilo's proposal to negotiate an acquisition of Scitex at \$20 per share.

An associate of his said Gilo is currently working on the legalities needed to go ahead with the hostile takeover.

He refused to reveal the measures which have to be taken, explaining that Gilo is very well prepared for the lengthy process ahead of him.

"We are in the midst of a process which we have worked on for a long time, and have taken

many things into account - including parties-at-interest purchases of additional shares on the stock exchange.

"The first and second stage involved confidential talks with the shareholders, but after failing to negotiate with them, Gilo went to the press and now he is dealing with the leading proceedings for the next stage," he said.

In the meantime, Scitex's existing shareholders have been the main beneficiaries of the takeover attempt.

Following Gilo's proposal to acquire Scitex for \$20 per share, about 44% over the price of the company's stock on March 29, the last day of trading before the proposal was publicly announced, the shares immediately rose to \$17.5. Since then the share has shot up to \$19.

Geotek, Cogeco Cable, Techcom participate in joint venture

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

GEOTEK Communications, Cogeco Cable and Techcom have signed a letter of intent to form a joint venture to launch a Canadian mobile wireless communications service based on Geotek's proprietary FHMA technology.

The new company, called GeoNet Canada, will be 45% owned by Geotek.

The three partners said the letter of intent is subject to the completion of a due diligence report, approval of the board of directors and the execution of definitive agreements.

GeoNet will focus on providing

advanced mobile communications services to business organizations that rely on real-time communications to manage and coordinate fleets of vehicles and to maximize the productivity of mobile workers.

The service will be provided using Geotek's FHMA-based digital network technology - which provides spectrum efficiency, voice and data services, immunity to interference and extensive coverage. The communications services are already in operation in

three major American cities, and are scheduled to operate in over 35 major US markets by the end of 1997.

The companies also announced that Industry Canada, the Canadian agency responsible for spectrum allocation, has approved in principle to give GeoNet 900 MHz frequency allocation.

This will allow the company to deploy a digital radio network which will be completely compatible with Geotek's FHMA network in the US allowing customers of one system to roam on the other.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Lehman Brothers reiterated its view that Koor provides an under-priced entree to the local market this year, similar to their valuation of the shares in the previous year. The company said Koor's share price is at a 12 percent discount to its underlying valuation.

Lehman forecast that Koor's net income for 1997 would reach NIS 605m-\$610m, and earnings per share to reach NIS 40.3m. The company said its forecast will be affected by the trend in the shekel/dollar exchange rate and the rate of devaluation of the shekel. Galit Lipkis Beck

The commercial banks' large provident funds achieved negative real yields in March. Bank Discount's Tamar fund reported a negative real yield of 1.17%, Bank Hapoalim's Gadfish fund achieved a negative yield of 0.8% and Bank Leumi's Oztma fund reported a negative yield of 0.42%. Galit Lipkis Beck

'Mutual funds' assets fall 5.7% in first quarter

Jerusalem Post Staff

MUTUAL funds' assets fell 5.7 percent in the first quarter, primarily as a result of NIS 650 million in redemptions, according to investment firm Meitav.

The funds' total assets decreased to NIS 15.19 billion at the end of March from NIS 16.1b. at the end of 1995.

Meitav's mutual fund index fell 3.1% in the three-month period.

Meitav said the drop in assets reflected the public's continued preference for interest-yielding shekel deposits and saving plans, which offer a reasonable return on investments at a relatively low risk.

According to Meitav, mutual funds' assets would have decreased 8.6% to NIS 14.72b. if not for the transfer of money to mutual funds specializing in shekel investments.

"If one neutralizes the changes in the financial mutual funds' assets, which are more like a substitute for shekel deposits rather than mutual funds that are associated with the share and bond markets, redemptions would have

been much higher, reaching NIS 1.1b - that is about 7% of mutual funds' total assets in the reported period, within one quarter," said Meitav.

According to Meitav, all funds suffered from withdrawals, but the share funds and flexible funds were hit worst, with redemptions of NIS 505m. and NIS 212m. respectively.

State funds reported redemptions of NIS 132m., mixed and other funds shrank by NIS 110m., and bond funds withdrawals totaled NIS 100m. Foreign currency funds suffered withdrawals of NIS 44m., while funds specializing in overseas shares reported redemptions of NIS 12m. Banks' and other mutual fund managers' share of the sector were virtually unchanged over the first quarter, with the exception of Bank Leumi, which reduced its share of the market to 31.2% from 32.1%.

The main beneficiaries from the decline were the private brokers that increased their stake to 16.5% from 15.9%.

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Net profits at EFI rise

Jerusalem Post Staff

ELECTRONICS for Imaging reported a 76 percent increase in net profits for the first quarter to \$12.6 million from \$7.2m. in the corresponding period last year.

Earnings per share rose to \$0.47 per share from \$0.27 per share in the first quarter last year. First quarter revenues grew 58% to \$63.6m. from \$40.4m.

Dan Avida, president and chief executive officer, said the first quarter results represent the 18th consecutive quarterly increase in revenue. The company manufactures products that enable high-quality color printing in short production runs.

Operating expenses rose to \$12.38m. from \$9.9m., while income from operations rose to \$18m. from \$10m.

"The record results affirm strong demand for Fiery products, from color copiers with Fiery XJ servers to color laser printers with Fiery XJe printer controllers," Avida said.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Foreign currency deposit rates (12.4.96)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Yen (10 million yen)	0.75%	0.75%	0.75%

(Rates may be higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.4.96)

Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Bank
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.2238	3.1757	3.08	3.22	3.1510
German mark	2.0788	2.1128	2.04	2.16	2.0888
French franc	4.7587	4.8380	4.68	4.87	4.7888
Japanese yen (100)	0.6122	0.6221	0.60	0.64	0.6175
Dutch guilder	2.8778	2.9383	2.82	2.97	2.9015
Swedish krona	1.8828	1.9208	1.82	1.92	1.8788
Swiss franc	2.5807	2.6021	2.51	2.64	2.5817
Saudi riyal	0.4688	0.4744	0.45	0.48	0.4711
Portuguese escudo	0.4812	0.4880	0.47	0.50	0.4853
Spanish peseta	0.0387	0.0404	0.38	0.39	0.3834
Italian lira	0.6826	0.6903	0.66	0.69	0.6711
Canadian dollar	2.3038	2.3408	2.28	2.38	2.3238
Australian dollar	2.4880	2.5208	2.42	2.55	2.4978
S. African rand	0.7517	0.7638	0.68	0.77	0.7587
Belgian franc (10)	1.0127	1.0281	0.99	1.05	1.0211
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8570	3.0047	2.80	3.05	2.9038
Indian rupee (1000)	1.9888	2.0038	1.95	2.05	2.0038
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—	—	—
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	—	—
Irish punt	0.4833	0.4921	0.47	0.54	0.4978
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4888	2.5208	2.44	2.57	2.5078

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel. SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

TOURISTS & FOREIGN RESIDENTS

If you're planning to invest in Israel, consider our TARGET and PRIME Mutual Funds!

SPECIAL OFFER:

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- 1.3.1995 - 29.2.1996, yield in U.S. Dollars.
- This advertisement does not constitute an offer to purchase participating units of the mutual funds. The purchase of units is executed according to the funds prospectuses.

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 - b. Willingness to provide a guarantee, as explained in the tender documents.
 2. The tender documents can be obtained from the Tenders and Ordering Department of the Purchasing Division, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem (Room 608) Tel. 02-395429, 618, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday to Thursday. No charge will be made for the documents.
 3. Bids should be placed in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, not later than May 28, 1996, at 6 p.m.
 4. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid, or to order the entire work from one source.
- Bids sent by fax or telegram will not be considered.

PRIME Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents	Date: 11.4.96 Purchase Price: 107.84 Redemption Price: 107.18	TARGET Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents	Date: 11.4.96 Purchase Price: 146.91 Redemption Price: 145.74
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Key Representative Rates

US Dollar	NIS 3.1516	%
Starting	NIS 4.7065	%
Mark	NIS 2.0089	%

Precious metals close weaker

COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

Precious metals closed slightly weaker on Friday after a firmness in the stock and bond market.

June gold settled down \$1.20 at \$397.10 per ounce and May silver settled 4.4 cents lower at \$5.518 per ounce.

Copper futures closed higher for the third consecutive day on Friday, with the May contract setting up \$0.60 at \$119.40 per pound.

Analysts are looking for a decline in LME stocks this week and are also monitoring labor talks at the world's largest copper mine in Chile, as well as a rail strike in Zambia and Tanzania which has disrupted copper and cobalt shipments from Zambia for the past week.

Concern over wheat production cuts in the US for the coming year, dry weather in the great plains and rumors of China's interest in purchasing wheat boosted CBOT wheat futures to a higher close, with the May contract up 19 cents at \$5.821/2 per bushel.

The higher wheat futures prices gave momentum to the CBOT corn market on Friday, with the May futures contract in corn closing up 6 1/2 cents at \$4.51 per bushel.

A strong soybean market, as well as the wheat rally, pushed CBOT soybeans to a stronger close on Friday.

Recent fears of mad cow disease have been prompting more talk of livestock and poultry feeders to switch from bone meal to soybean as a substitute. May soybean futures closed up 7 1/2 cents at \$7.96 per bushel.

May cotton futures closed down \$0.76 per pound at \$85.99, mainly due to trade selling, as well as a rumored increase in certified stocks, sources said.

In an otherwise uneventful session, July sugar futures closed the week \$0.14 cents down at \$11.12 per pound, mainly due to trade and local selling, traders said.

After the close, a Brazilian official announced that their 1996/7 sugar exports are expected to be substantially lower than the 1995/6 limit.

May CSCE coffee futures ended \$1.85 a pound lower at \$115.25 per pound, while July cocoa settled \$18 higher at \$1,376 per tonne.

Courtesy of Michael Zwebner, ComStock Trading Ltd.

Romania to keep forex trade curbs

SOFIA (Reuters) - Romania said yesterday it had no immediate plans to lift controversial curbs on banks' foreign exchange trading that have recently cast a shadow over its image as a market reformer.

"The restrictions will remain for the time being for the state of the foreign exchange market," said National Bank director Ghica Dumitru. "We had to take such steps but they are not a conclusion, not an end. The reauthorization process [of the foreign banks] is continuing," he added.

Last month the National Bank stunned bankers when it effectively ended an interbank market set up under IMF requirements in 1994 by withdrawing licenses from 20-odd foreign and locally owned banks.

In what it insists is a temporary move designed to combat speculation and integrate a fractured market, the bank limited licenses to four Romanian banks. Bankers say it is an artificial attempt to prop up the domestic lei currency.

Traders say they expect the National Bank to relicense some banks, including the Dutch institution ING by the end of April as the first stage of normalization.

Dumitru was speaking at his country's presentation on the second day of the annual gathering of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in the Bulgarian capital Sofia.

Romanian officials told EBRD delegates that their Balkan country, once perceived as a straggler, was now firmly on the path of economic reform, with inflation down to a projected 10 percent this year from some 300% in 1993.

Compromise with Germany smooths way to single currency

VERONA, Italy, (Reuters) - A compromise between the European Commission and Germany over a "Stability Pact" for the single European currency at a weekend Ecofin meeting in Verona overcomes a big hurdle on the tortuous path to monetary union.

The deal, in which Germany softened its demand that fines for countries transgressing an agreed budget deficit ceiling be automatic, followed a proposal from the commission to speed up the excess deficit procedures already in the Maastricht Treaty.

"There is now a strong will to implement the pact," said German Finance Minister Theo Waigel after the meeting.

The "Stability Pact" is Waigel's brainchild. There was a strong sense of relief from commission and German officials at how the deal was quietly forged while most

attention was focused on the row over a new exchange rate mechanism between the Euro and other European countries not in the single currency - something Britain objected to strongly.

Waigel was delighted all 15 EU members expressed support for the goals of the pact, especially as many had been against it.

"I am very satisfied and positively surprised," Waigel said. "It will ensure that there is fiscal stability not only as we approach EMU but after it has started."

He first proposed a pact last year, arguing the Maastricht Treaty wording was not strong enough to ensure countries who joined the single currency kept their budget deficits under control in the long-term.

He also said fines against offenders should be 0.25 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) for every percentage point that a country's budget deficit strays

over 3% of GDP. Other EU members originally welcomed the principle of the pact, but many then balked at the idea of sanctions being automatic and of the size Waigel wanted.

The waning of enthusiasm was such that until this weekend's meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors, only France and the Netherlands were expressing any support at all.

The issue had recently started to look as if it could develop into another major European dispute, with many feeling that was Germany throwing its weight around again.

Waigel, of course, was playing as much to a domestic audience as an international one.

He knows only too well that a majority of Germans are strongly opposed to giving up their beloved mark if the new currency is not rock solid.

But, aware of the growing oppo-

sition to the pact abroad, German officials hinted last week they may be prepared to compromise on what was meant by "automatic" sanctions.

Waigel said after the meeting the commission's proposal to speed up the procedures in the treaty for dealing with excess deficits could well give the process a "quasi-automaticity".

For his part, Economic Affairs Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy promised to have a concrete plan ready by the next informal Ecofin in September with a view to closing a deal on the stability pact at the EU summit in December.

The compromise enabled other EU members to support the pact and should allow Waigel to tell Germans he won a pledge of financial discipline not only from those expecting to be in the first wave of single currency entrants but also from the others.

British businessmen in Saudi Arabia anxious over dissident issue

DUBAI (Reuters) - Britain's business community in Saudi Arabia is anxious that controversy over a Saudi dissident in London and a British television program on human rights in the Gulf Arab kingdom could harm their interests.

But diplomats and businessmen say there are no immediate signs that Britain's lucrative business relations with the world's biggest oil producer and exporter would suffer if London granted asylum to Saudi dissident Mohammad Masari.

"There is anxiety among the British business community," one businessman said. There are about 30,000 Britons in Saudi Arabia.

"A number of people feel that an issue like Masari and more immediately the BBC Panorama program are likely to be unhelpful and might spill into business, whether in the short term, or long term is still not clear," another said.

The British Broadcasting Corporation's Panorama earlier this month showed preparations for a beheading in Saudi Arabia, where Islamic sharia law is applied, and interviewed expatriates who alleged human rights abuses against them.

"Many feel that the program does not reflect

what they see in Saudi. They feel that broadcasting it is bad for business, but it is hard to assess how bad," one Western diplomat said.

The program led the Rome-based Orbit Communications, owned by a group chaired by a cousin of Saudi King Fahd, to cancel a contract to transmit the BBC's Arabic television service to the Middle East.

Newspapers in the Gulf said the 10-year contract, signed in 1994, was worth \$100m.

The British businessmen said they were hoping that comments by Panorama by the Saudi ambassador in London, Ghazi Algasbi - who said Britain would lose lucrative deals in Saudi Arabia unless Masari was deported - would not become a reality.

Masari was ordered in January to leave Britain for the Caribbean island of Dominica. British government ministers admitted they issued the order to protect military sales to Saudi.

But in March, Masari won a first appeal against deportation after an independent appeals judge said his life could be in danger in Dominica.

"Saudi Arabia will not punish Britain if Masari stays in London, but will show its disappointment," one diplomat said.

"The worry is not for trade or existing con-

tracts, but the general feeling is that if Masari stays in Britain, British businesses might not be favored in future contracts, at least for the short term," one British executive said.

Britain is competing with the US and France for Saudi plans to buy up to 200 main battle tanks. Diplomats and industry sources say Saudi Arabia, even before the Masari issue, seemed inclined to buy the tanks from the other competitors.

Britain has 114 joint ventures in Saudi Arabia, with a total capital of 3.4 billion riyals (\$906m), 1994 figures show.

Many diplomats and residents say the Saudi government does not see Masari, who was jailed for several months in Saudi Arabia, as a threat to the stability of the country, where Saudi officials say he does not have a wide following.

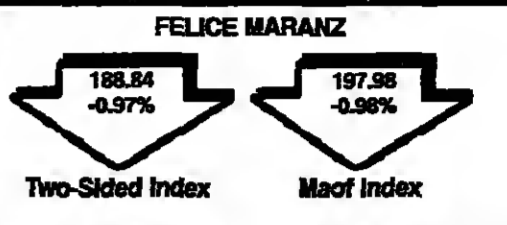
"They see him as a nuisance, not a threat to the existing order."

"At the same time they don't want to see him staying in London and carrying on with his campaign against the royal family in Saudi," one diplomat said.

British exports to Saudi Arabia in 1995 totaled £1.64bn, while imports were £720.8m, according to British embassy figures.

Soaring money supply sends shares lower

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



SHARES dropped yesterday as faster-than-expected money supply growth fueled concern about accelerating inflation and the prospect that the central bank might raise interest rates.

The country's M1 money supply rose a higher-than-expected 3.8 percent in March from February, the Bank of Israel said.

The government will report the March Consumer Price Index today, with estimates showing an annual rate faster than the government target.

"One doesn't need any more explanations; everything is negative," said Eli Nabum, head of research at Zannex Securities in Tel Aviv.

"You have to analyze this as a bear market. Good news causes no positive changes - the market ignores it - while bad news increases pessimism."

Operation Grapes of Wrath adds another issue investors must assess as they decide whether to put their money into Israeli equities, Nabum said.

"They ask 'How far will it go?' Nabum said, adding that "from a stock market point of view, it adds nothing good," even if "the bottom line is positive."

The Maof Index declined 0.98% to 197.98, while the Two-Sided Index eased 0.97% to 188.84.

The most active share on the exchange was IDB Holdings, down 2.5% at NIS 4.09 million of shares traded.

The company is the investment arm of the Recanati family here; an investment group including an IDB affiliate raised its stake in Scitex Corp. to 24.33%, a US Securities and Exchange Commission statement filed Friday said.

Close behind was Teva Pharmaceuticals, unchanged at NIS 4.08m of shares changed hands.

Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc. said it filed a lawsuit, trying to force the US Food and Drug Administration to postpone approving generic competition for its non-prescription version of the baldness treatment Rogaine.

Teva and Alpha Inc. were cleared by the agency to sell the generic version.

Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, NIS 70.7m of shares traded, 9% greater than the average NIS 64.9m this month. About 31/2 issues fell for every one that rose.

The Central Bank last changed rates on February 1, when it raised the rate at which it lends to banks 0.3% to 14%.

Consumer prices in January and February both rose 0.9%, indicating an annual rate that exceeds both 1995's 8.1% inflation and this year's government target of 8%-10%.

March's Consumer Price Index increase, due to be announced today, has been forecast at 1.1%-1.3%. (Bloomberg)

Indian markets rise ahead of elections

BOMBAY (Reuters) - Investors are pouring money into Indian stocks on the eve of national elections as confidence builds that economic reforms will survive the polls, analysts said yesterday.

The Bombay Stock Exchange's benchmark index has surged more than five percent this month and rose 0.67% on Friday to close at 3,487.51 points.

Money and foreign exchange markets also appear unperturbed before the elections, which start on April 27, because major shifts in economic policy after the polls seemed unlikely, bankers said.

"Across the political spectrum, there's agreement on the reforms and in no way will they be reversed," said a senior strategist with a foreign investment firm.

Analysts said the liberalization policies which Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao launched after his Congress party won power in 1991 had been embraced by states ruled by opposition parties.

"That several non-Congress-led states have actually outperformed the central government in pursuing reforms over the past year supports our view of broad consensus among major parties over the need for reforms," Crosby Securities said in a recent review of the Indian economy.

Karnataka state, run by the socialist Janata Dal party, and Gujarat state, governed by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), have actively sought foreign investment.

The markets expect Congress or the BJP to form a coalition with neither party winning an absolute majority in the 545-seat lower house (Lok Sabha).

"The market will welcome a Congress or a BJP government... perceiving both to be pro-liberalization," Crosby said.

"Only in the event of neither of

the major parties being able to cobble together a workable coalition, the probability of which is small, can the bourse be derailed," it said.

The BJP has said it would slow down economic reforms, paying particular attention to imports of consumer goods.

But its manifesto supports liberalization.

With the outcome of elections discounted, the markets have been driven largely by foreign funds, which see Indian stocks among the best value in emerging markets.

"The valuations are extremely attractive and the elections haven't dimmed that perception," the strategist with the foreign investment firm said.

Voting in the world's most populous democracy begins on April 27 and will be held over six days ending on May 30.

Counting of ballots in all but six constituencies begins on May 8 and a clear picture should emerge by May 10.

Girish Desai, research head at broking firm Prabhudas Lilladher, said foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were selecting blue chips and chances of a rally were "very bright".

Analysts expect FIIs to pump in \$4b in 1996, with \$1b already invested in the first three months of the year.

Domestic funds and retail investors have had to hold back purchases, because they have yet to recover from a liquidity crunch that squeezed bank credit and pushed interest rates up.

The chief foreign exchange dealer at a foreign bank predicted the rupee would remain stable at about 34.50 to the dollar, with the central bank willing to intervene to defend the 34-rupee level.

"There's been no panic or urgency to cover positions," he said.

Taiwan forex reserves fall in March

TAIPEI (Reuters) - Taiwan's foreign exchange reserves, hurt by Beijing's recent military exercises, fell to below US\$90 billion at the end of March, the official Central News Agency said yesterday.

The agency quoted a central bank official as saying that the bank intervened heavily to support the Taiwan dollar in March as Beijing held war games and missile tests in the Taiwan Strait in the run-up to Taiwan's March 23 presidential election.

The menacing war games triggered waves of US dollar buying and the central bank sold about US\$5 billion in the foreign exchange market to keep the Taiwan dollar rate at around TS27.5 to the dollar, it said.

The central bank has said the island's foreign exchange reserves rose to above \$90b. at the end of February from \$89.560b. at the end of January.

The bank would officially announce the end-February reserves on April 15 and the March figure on May 15.

Taiwan's foreign reserves have been falling after hitting a record high of US\$100.412b. at the end of June last year.

Tensions have abated after the election and the Taiwan dollar started rising as people actively sold the American currency to invest in the bull stock market.

On Saturday, the Taiwan dollar closed at TS27.162 against the US dollar.

TEL AVIV STOCKS				AFTERNOON				MORNING			
Multi-sided trading				Two-sided trading				Two-sided trading			
Name	Price	% Change	Volume	Name	Price	% Change	Volume	Name	Price	% Change	Volume
Bank Leumi	171.00	0.3	180	Bank Leumi	171.00	0.3	180	Bank Leumi	171.00	0.3	180
Bank Hapoalim	170.00	0.2	170	Bank Hapoalim	170.00	0.2	170	Bank Hapoalim	170.00	0.2	170
Bank Mizrahi	169.00	0.1	160	Bank Mizrahi	169.00	0.1	160	Bank Mizrahi	169.00	0.1	160
Bank Hapoalim	168.00	0.0	150	Bank Hapoalim	168.00	0.0	150	Bank Hapoalim	168.00	0.0	150
Bank Leumi	167.00	-0.1	140	Bank Leumi	167.00	-0.1	140	Bank Leumi	167.00	-0.1	140
Bank Hapoalim	166.00	-0.2	130	Bank Hapoalim	166.00	-0.2	130	Bank Hapoalim	166.00	-0.2	130
Bank Mizrahi	165.00	-0.3	120	Bank Mizrahi	165.00	-0.3	120	Bank Mizrahi	165.00	-0.3	120
Bank Hapoalim	164.00	-0.4	110	Bank Hapoalim	164.00	-0.4	110	Bank Hapoalim	164.00	-0.4	110
Bank Leumi	163.00	-0.5	100	Bank Leumi	163.00	-0.5	100	Bank Leumi	163.00	-0.5	100
Bank Hapoalim	162.00	-0.6	90	Bank Hapoalim	162.00	-0.6	90	Bank Hapoalim	162.00	-0.6	90
Bank Mizrahi	161.00	-0.7	80	Bank Mizrahi	161.00	-0.7	80	Bank Mizrahi	161.00	-0.7	80
Bank Hapoalim	160.00	-0.8	70	Bank Hapoalim	160.00	-0.8	70	Bank Hapoalim	160.00	-0.8	70
Bank Leumi	159.00	-0.9	60	Bank Leumi	159.00	-0.9	60	Bank Leumi	159.00	-0.9	60
Bank Hapoalim	158.00	-1.0	50	Bank Hapoalim	158.00	-1.0	50	Bank Hapoalim	158.00	-1.0	50
Bank Mizrahi	157.00	-1.1	40	Bank Mizrahi	157.00	-1.1	40	Bank Mizrahi	157.00	-1.1	40
Bank Hapoalim	156.00	-1.2	30	Bank Hapoalim	156.00	-1.2	30	Bank Hapoalim	156.00	-1.2	30
Bank Leumi	155.00	-1.3	20	Bank Leumi	155.00	-1.3	20	Bank Leumi	155.00	-1.3	20
Bank Hapoalim	154.00	-1.4	10	Bank Hapoalim	154.00	-1.4	10	Bank Hapoalim	154.00	-1.4	10
Bank Mizrahi	153.00	-1.5	5	Bank Mizrahi	153.00	-1.5	5	Bank Mizrahi	153.00	-1.5	5
Bank Hapoalim	152.00	-1.6	2	Bank Hapoalim	152.00	-1.6	2	Bank Hapoalim	152.00	-1.6	2
Bank Leumi	151.00	-1.7	1	Bank Leumi	151.00	-1.7	1	Bank Leumi	151.00	-1.7	1
Bank Hapoalim	150.00	-1.8	0	Bank Hapoalim	150.00	-1.8	0	Bank Hapoalim	150.00	-1.8	0
Bank Mizrahi	149.00	-1.9	0	Bank Mizrahi	149.00	-1.9	0	Bank Mizrahi	149.00	-1.9	0
Bank Hapoalim	148.00	-2.0	0	Bank Hapoalim	148.00	-2.0	0	Bank Hapoalim	148.00	-2.0	0
Bank Leumi	147.00	-2.1	0	Bank Leumi	147.00	-2.1	0	Bank Leumi	147.00	-2.1	0
Bank Hapoalim	146.00	-2.2	0	Bank Hapoalim	146.00	-2.2	0	Bank Hapoalim	146.00	-2.2	0
Bank Mizrahi	145.00	-2.3	0	Bank Mizrahi	145.00	-2.3	0	Bank Mizrahi	145.00	-2.3	0
Bank Hapoalim	144.00	-2.4	0	Bank Hapoalim	144.00	-2.4	0	Bank Hapoalim	144.00	-2.4	0
Bank Leumi	143.00	-2.5	0	Bank Leumi	143.00	-2.5	0	Bank Leumi	143.00	-2.5	0
Bank Hapoalim	142.00	-2.6	0	Bank Hapoalim	142.00	-2.6	0	Bank Hapoalim	142.00	-2.6	0
Bank Mizrahi	141.00	-2.7	0	Bank Mizrahi	141.00	-2.7	0	Bank Mizrahi	141.00	-2.7	0
Bank Hapoalim	140.00	-2.8	0	Bank Hapoalim	140.00	-2.8	0	Bank Hapoalim	140.00	-2.8	0
Bank Leumi											

Bulls win 69th game

CLEVELAND (AP) - The Chicago Bulls reached the threshold of NBA history yesterday, tying the league record of 69 victories in a season as they beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 96-72 behind Michael Jordan's 32 points and 12 rebounds.

The Bulls matched the record set in 1971-72 by the Los Angeles Lakers of Wilt Chamberlain and Jerry West. Chicago can surpass it - and become the first NBA team ever to reach 70 wins - tomorrow night at Milwaukee.

The game actually meant more in the standings to Cleveland, which dropped a full game behind New York in a four-way race that includes Atlanta and Detroit for the fourth playoff seed in the East.

Chicago swept the four games of the season series with Cleveland by an average of 22.25 points per game.

The Bulls settled this one early, taking control late in the first quarter when Jordan capped a 7-0 flurry with a 3-point shot that made it 21-13. The Cavs set the slow pace that they prefer, but they missed 12 of their first 18 shots and never recovered.

Ron Harper scored 15 and Scottie Pippen 13 for Chicago. Terrell Brandon led the Cavs with 21 points, and Chris Mills had 16.

Jordan scored Chicago's final five points of the first half on a 3-pointer and a fast-break layup, putting the Bulls up 46-35, and they were never seriously threatened in the second half.

A basket by Pippen gave them their biggest lead at 77-49 early in the fourth quarter.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS:
Charlotte 94, Philadelphia 78
Washington 110, Toronto 97
Chicago 98, Cleveland 72
Atlanta 99, New Jersey 90
Portland at Vancouver
Denver at Minnesota
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers
Orlando at Milwaukee
Boston at Detroit

SATURDAY'S RESULTS:
Miami 103, New York 95
San Antonio 84, Seattle 81
Houston 112, Dallas 111
Indiana 91, Detroit 86
L.A. Clippers 91, Utah 81.

Galil makes Final Four

Jerusalem avoids relegation, Ramat Gan drops

ELI GRONER

A LAST-SECOND prayer by Gur Shelef was answered as Hapoel Galil Elyon made the playoffs with less than a second to spare. Maccabi Ramat Gan's late-season surge wasn't enough to stave off relegation after 28 years in the First Division while Maccabi Jerusalem blew by Enei Herzliya, guaranteeing their participation in the league for at least another season.

In other action last night, Hapoel Eilat rode a buzzer-beater into the lower playoffs, while Maccabi Rishon and Meccabi Tel Aviv defeated Hapoel Jerusalem and Hapoel Holon respectively.

Hap. Galil 96, Hap. Safed 89
Last night the north was the venue of the league's most exciting finish of the season, as Shelef nailed a three-pointer at the buzzer propelling the northerners into the Final Four. A loss would have relegated David Blatt's club to the lower-playoffs.

Just 14 seconds earlier, all appeared to be lost for Galil when Melvin Neuborn hit a free, providing Safed with an 88-85 lead. Two seconds later, Safed's Yaniv Weizmann committed a very alert foul on Galil's Alon Steio sending the youngster to the charity stripe and eliminating the option of the three-point play.

The 18-year-old calmly sank the two free throws closing the gap to one at 88-87. Gil Sela, who was outstanding all game for the Galil, was forced to foul Neuborn to stop the clock with just seconds remaining. Neuborn only connected on one of the two though, enabling Shelef to come through with his last-second heroics.

The victory was sweet for Blatt, who will probably win the coach of the year award. Blatt's game-plan was to stifle Neuborn at all costs, a strategy that paid immediate dividends as Galil jumped out to a 26-19 lead. Safed was able to come back, thanks in large part to the veteran leadership of Erez Hazan and the foul troubles of their opponent.

Galil were hampered by foul problems all night and Blatt even reverted from his aggressive man-to-man, to an unorthodox zone defense in the second half in an effort to offset the problem.

In the last few minutes, with the Galil clinging to a 78-76 lead, Blatt went back to the defense that brought his band of overachievers to the opportunity they were facing.

High scorers for Galil were Andrew Kennedy with 33 and Sela with 21. Hazan led Safed with 22.

Hap. Eilat 69, Hap. TA 68
In the league's second most exciting finish of the season, Guy Kantor launched a last-second leave from behind halfcourt that found the bottom of the net to send the southerners into the lower playoffs.

Kantor's incredible shot came three seconds after Nana Markovitz hit a fantastic three-pointer of his own. From the baseline corner, it what appeared to be the game-winning shot for Tel Aviv.

The Tel Aviv players began their premature celebration by embracing and slapping hands, instead of enforcing any semblance of defensive pressure on the inbound pass. The mental lapse cost Tel Aviv a spot in the lower-playoffs.

J.J. Eubanks and Willy Simms scored 17 and 15 respectively for Eilat. Markovitz had 19 for Tel Aviv.

Macc. J-M 95, Herzliya 76
The marquee matchup of the evening didn't live up to its billing as the Jerusalemites crushed the inert Herzliyan squad.

The inside-outside combination of Joe Dawson and Avner Saban (four three-pointers) did most of the work in the first half as Jerusalem entered the halftime intermission with a 44-40 advantage. Maccabi charged out of the locker-room like gangbusters, playing its best half of the season as the team reeled off a 29-10 run en

route to the blowout.
The second half saw the emergence of Adonis Jordan and Uri Cohen-Mintz for the capital-city club as well, as they poured in clutch baskets whenever it seemed like Herzliya's Amir Katz or David Thirskill would lead a comeback effort.

Dawson had 26 points while Jordan had 23. Katz had 28 for Herzliya.

Rishon 94, Hap. Jerusalem 88
With Jerusalem firmly ensconced in second place, Rishon cruised to victory in a game that wasn't as close as the score indicated. The victory wasn't enough for Rishon as Galil's victory prevented them from securing a play-off spot. Brian Oliver led the way with 31 points.

Macc RG 81, Hap. Gvat 65
Ramat Gan continued its improved play, that coincided with the arrival of Robert Rose, by rolling over Gvat. However, it wasn't enough to stave off relegation as both teams participated in their last games in the upper division for at least a season.

Macc TA 94, Hap. Holon 76
Several US college basketball programs had representatives in the stands in Holon last night to see Tel Aviv's Oded Katash in action. They were not disappointed as Katash displayed a terrific all-around performance in an otherwise meaningless game. Motti Daniel was the leading point-scorer with 25, while Derrick Hamilton tallied 24 for Holon.

National Basketball League Final Standings

Team	W	L	Pts.
Maccabi Tel Aviv	21	1	43
Hapoel Jerusalem	17	5	39
Hapoel Galil Elyon	13	6	35
Enei Herzliya	13	9	35
Maccabi Rishon	13	6	35
Hapoel Holon	10	12	32
Hapoel Tel Aviv	9	13	31
Hapoel Safed	9	13	31
Hapoel Eilat	6	13	31
Maccabi Jerusalem	6	14	30
Maccabi Ramat Gan	6	14	30
Hapoel Gvat	2	20	24



GOAL ORIENTED - Newcastle's Les Ferdinand (l) clashes with Villa's Ian Taylor during yesterday's match.

Newcastle rekindles title hopes

LONDON (Reuters) - Newcastle United rekindled its chances of becoming English soccer champions for the first time in 69 years when a Les Ferdinand header gave it a 1-0 home win over Aston Villa yesterday.

Newcastle moved to within three points of leaders Manchester United with a game in hand in a nerve-jangling title race thrown wide open following its hard-fought victory over Villa and Manchester United's shock 3-1 defeat at Southampton on Saturday.

The winning goal came after 64 minutes when Peter Beardsley's accurate cross from the right was powerfully headed home from close range by Ferdinand who met the ball before Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich could reach it.

It was Ferdinand's 28th goal of the season and took Newcastle to 70 points - three behind Alex Ferguson's team. Manchester United has a goal difference of plus-29 compared to Newcastle's plus-28.

Both teams are back in action on Wednesday when Manchester is at home to Leeds and Newcastle is at home to Southampton. After that Manchester United

faces Nottingham Forest at home on April 28 and Middlesbrough away on May 5.
Newcastle goes to Leeds on April 29, faces Nottingham Forest at home on May 2 and then finishes with a home match against Tottenham on May 5.

Newcastle, which led the table by 12 points in January, fell six points behind Manchester United this week after winning only twice in its previous eight matches and losing to Manchester United, Liverpool and Blackburn.

Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan said afterwards: "We didn't play particularly well for us and Aston Villa dominated us for a period which hasn't happened too often this season."

"But we defended a lot better and to win championships it's not all about flair and great games, you have got to win when you haven't played so well. It puts us three points behind with a game in hand - the book is still being written on this championship."

Villa controlled the opening period as Keegan's men struggled to cope with Tommy Johnson dropping off into space or the pitiful probing of Mark Dykes, while Gary Charles' excursions

down the Villa right exposed the home side's defensive frailties. Villa could have led at the interval but Johnson lobbed poorly over when he had more time than he realized and Charles also wasted a good chance after 18 minutes.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS: Premier League: Newcastle 1, Aston Villa 0. Division One: Charlton 0, Derby 0; Ipswich 2, Norwich 1. Scottish Premier: Hibernian 1, Celtic 2.

Premier League

Team	P	W	D	L	Pts.
Man Utd	35	22	7	6	73
Newcastle	34	22	4	8	70
Leipzig	34	19	8	7	65
Aston Villa	35	16	9	10	62
Arsenal	34	16	9	9	57
Tottenham	34	15	10	9	55
Everton	35	15	11	5	54
Blackburn	35	16	9	10	54
Not. Forest	34	14	11	9	53
West Ham	35	14	7	14	47
Chelsea	35	12	12	11	48
Middlesbrough	36	11	10	15	43
Leeds	34	12	6	16	42
Wimbledon	35	10	16	13	40
Sheff. Wed.	35	10	17	15	38
Southampton	36	8	17	17	31
Manchester City	36	8	16	19	30
Coventry	35	7	12	16	29
QPR	36	6	12	19	28
Ipswich	36	5	12	19	28

Devils fail to make playoffs

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) - The New Jersey Devils became the first team in 26 years to fail to make the playoffs the year after winning the Stanley Cup when they lost 5-2 Saturday to the Ottawa Senators, the NHL's worst team.

The loss by the Devils assured the Tampa Bay Lightning of its first playoff berth in their four-

year history.
"It's kind of an empty feeling," goalie Martin Brodeur said. "It was really hard to explain when we won it, and now it's really hard to explain when we're not in it. It's a feeling that we're not fun anymore."

The top to bottom trip for the Stanley Cup champions was the sixth in NHL history and the first

since the 1969-70 Montreal Canadiens, a team which included current Devils coach Jacques Lemaire.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS:
Ottawa 5, New Jersey 2
Hartford 2, Boston 0
N.Y. Islanders 5, Montreal 5
Buffalo 3, Washington 2
Toronto 6, Edmonton 3
Vancouver 5, Calgary 0

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United unlikely to play in grey again

LONDON (Reuters) - Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson strongly hinted yesterday that his team would never again play in their grey away strip which they replaced at half-time in their 3-1 defeat at Southampton on Saturday.

Ferguson told BBC Radio Five Live: "The players don't like the grey strip, it is a simple as that. "I think they find it difficult to pick each other out...We had to change the strip."

Saturday's match was the fifth time United had worn the strip - and the fifth time they had failed to win in it.

Coming off 3-0 down at half-time, they wore their blue-and-white away kit in the second half but their title hopes still took a knock as they crashed to a shock 3-1 defeat.

But if the club do dump the shirts, it would anger thousands of their supporters.

Sampras regains No. 1 ranking

CRITIC'S CHOICE



The Oscar-winning Dutch film 'Antonia's Line' is a multi-generational feminist epic.

DANCE

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company presents Rami Be'er's 'Aide Memoire', which deals with our society's memories of the Holocaust from the perspective of an Israeli whose family survived. At 1 p.m. tomorrow at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv in a special performance for Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. It is also being performed at 8:30 Thursday in Pardes Hanna.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ ANTONIA'S LINE — An odd blend of the political and the pastoral, the feminist and the Christian. Dutch director Marleen Gorris's movie unfolds as a kind of mini-epic. Without warning, a small story of one strong single mother and the eccentric peasants she nourishes gives way to a multi-generational fable about a whole loving community and the female life force that binds them. The tough heroine and whimsical, magical-realist tone of the film will no doubt appeal to many viewers, as they appealed to the members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences who named it the year's best foreign film. Others may find Antonia's Line a touch cloying and snug. As the movie goes on, the title character comes to seem less and less like a real and admirable person and more and more like the figment of feminist longing. (Dutch dialogue, Hebrew and English subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

★★★ GET SHORTY — Though the pretzel twists and coarsened turns of Elmore Leonard's pulp novel plot are baffling in movie form, Barry Sonnenfeld's picture is still a kick. Part crime caper, part Hollywood satire, the movie has a bright comic-book look that blends oddly but well with its black sense of humor. And for all its narrative confusion, the film can actually be reduced to a neat one-liner about a smooth Miami loan shark named Chili Palmer (John Travolta) who comes to Los Angeles to collect on a debt and winds up producing movies. The joke, of course, is that Chili, a crook, is more honest and business-savvy than any of the self-absorbed, bumbling "professionals" around him. Also with Gene Hackman, Rene Russo and Danny DeVito. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

★★★ LEAVING LAS VEGAS — His skin sallow, jaw slack, basset-hound eyes pleading, Nicolas Cage gives an enormous, excruciating performance in Mike Figgis's film, and one that's all the remarkable for its anguished attempts at humor. Until now, Cage has always played the clown — flexing his furry eyebrows and jutting his soft chin to broad comic effect. Amazingly enough, he does the same thing here, as an alcoholic Hollywood screenwriter who loses his job, burns his belongings and drives to Nevada where he intends to drink himself to death. Adapted by Figgis from an autobiographical novel by the late John O'Brien, the movie is at once harsh and tender, repellent and engrossing. And almost impossible to enjoy. Indeed, at times Leaving Las Vegas seems very much the brainchild of its aggressively sloshed anti-hero, torn between wanting the audience's affections and shoving us rudely away. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

TELEVISION

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6:30 News 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Revolutions in the modern era 8:50 Science of Nature 9:05 Nature 9:25 Sesame Street 10:00 On Second Thoughts - Politically Correct 10:30 Science and Technology 10:50 English 11:15 General History 11:40 English 12:05 Physical Geography 12:25 Social Studies 12:50 Quality of the Environment 13:10 Music 13:30 Silly Cat 13:40 Our Friends 13:45 Kiny Cast and Tommy 14:00 Fables of the Babar 14:25 Mother Goose 15:00 Auto

CHANNEL 1

15:55 Rex 16:20 On the tip of the bush 16:50 Zap to Doves 16:59 A New Evening 17:34 The Diary of Anne Frank 18:00 Zap Comics 18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

16:30 Sport magazine 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 News in Hebrew 19:30 Mabat News 20:00 Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day Ceremony broadcast live from Yad Vashem 21:00 Wall of Silence (1995) - drama taking place 10 days before the end of World War II when 180 Jews were shot to death near the Austro-Hungarian border (58 mins.) 22:00 Choice and Fate - Holocaust survivors look back 23:00 Backtrack with Ehud Manor 23:30 News 00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2

13:00 Talking with Danny Roup 14:00 Edge of the Wilderness - new adventure series about a group of delinquents 14:30 Tick Tack 15:00 Sharkey and George (pt) 15:30 Trick of Treet - drama series 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshef 17:30 A Matter of Time 18:00 Santa Barbara 18:00 Vengeance - When Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau was a small boy in Poland, he watched the Germans humiliate his father for his refusal to shave his beard. The youngster wanted to avenge his father and other members of his family. This documentary deals with vengeance of a special kind 19:30 News 20:00 Ceremony of remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust 21:00 Anne Frank Remembered (1995) - Oscar-winning documentary gives a three-

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WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS28.06 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS250.05 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM CONDUCTED TOURS OF THE MOUNT SCOPUS CAMPUS, in English, daily Sun-Thur, 11 a.m. from Bronnman Reception Centre, Sherman Hotel, 44, 5, 23, 26, 26. For info, call 682819. HADASSAH, Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. 02-416333, 02-770271.

TEL AVIV

MUSEUM, Micha Ullman, Drawings 1994-5 New Horizon: Sculpture, Micha Bar-Am - The Last War, Photographs, Transit, 1995; Nili - Cabasa, Paintings; Dorshin - Blocked Wall; Face to Face; The Museum Collections. HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART, Tel Aviv, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. 10-3 p.m. Museum of Art Education Center, Tel. 691815-8. WIZO, To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6922819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 336817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Jaffe Gate, 263896; Baitan, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shushat, Shushat Road, 910108; Dar Aidawa, Hero's Gate, 262585. Tel Aviv: Benny, 174 Dizengoff, 522-2286; Kupat Holim Maccabi, 7 HaShilo, 54-5555; Tel. 9 a.m. Tuesday: Ben Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 522-3535. Tel. midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Eilat, 641-3730; London Minisore Superpharm, 4 Shaul Hamelekh, 696-0115. Ramatana-Kfar Sava: Medicore, 24 Hermonia, 124 Sava, 457034. Netanya: Magen, 13 Weizmann, 622966. Krayot area: Harman, 8 Simat Modrin, Krayot Modrin, 670-77703. Herzliya: Magen David, Gusha, 682-5205. Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 8 Meikot (near Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 656472, 556407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight. Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mat, 570488. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT); Migdal Lachod (obstetrics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE

100 FIRE 102 FIRST AID 101 Magen David Adom In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Address 551333 Ashdod 551922 Beersheva 274791 Beit Shean 621233 Dan Region 579333 Eilat 255444 Herzliya 651223 Jerusalem 522133 Ramat Gan 628544 Ramat Hashikma 628544 Mobile Intraive Care Unit (MCU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English)

177-022-9110 The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-8529235, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning. Eran - Emotional First Aid, Jerusalem 013033, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6951113), Haifa 9572222, Beersheva 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 988410, Kfar Sava 764555, Hadera 345789.

Who offers for battered women 02-6514111, 05-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-378310, 06-550508 (also in Amharic), Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (Heb.), Jerusalem 255556, Haifa 6800111, Eilat 31977, Hadassah Medical Organization - Israel Cancer Association telephone support service 02-247676, 9evy. Netanya: Laniado.

JORDAN TV

14:00 Bonkers 14:30 Fichie Rich - cartoon 15:00 Bush School 15:15 Playabout 15:30 Buslin' Loose 16:00 Animals of the Mediterranean 16:20 TAO 17:00 French Programs 19:35 The Nanny - comedy 20:00 Baby It's You 20:25 Rock around the World 21:00 World Echo 21:10 Sea Powers 22:00 News in English 22:25 The Bold and the Beautiful 23:10 P.S. I Love You 00:00 Teurus Rising 24:40 Ellen - comedy

MIDDLE EAST TV

14:00 The 700 Club 14:55 Four Dauses (1975) - action/comedy/drama about a newsman who while writing a story on gangland activity, falls in love with the leader's girlfriend. Starring Carl Lumbly and Jack Palance 16:30 Dennis the Menace 16:55 Mask 17:20 Fables of the Green Forest 17:45 Another Life 18:10 Magnum 19:10 The A-Team 20:00 World News Tonight (Arabic) 20:30 CNN Headline News 21:00 The Bill Cosby Show 21:30 Diagnosis Murder 22:20 Snowy River 23:30 700 Club 00:00 Special Program

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 8:05 Lizzie Bee (pt) 8:30 Peter Rabbit (pt) 9:05 Alice in Wonderland (pt) 9:35 The Heart (pt) 10:05 Pinkie the Brai (pt) 10:35 Max Glick (pt) 10:55 Saved by the Bell (pt) 11:00 Little University Encyclopedia 13:00 Surprise Garden 13:35 Alvin and the Chipmunks 14:00 Detective Goochie 14:35 Sadaku and the Thousand Cranes 15:10 The Heart 15:45 The Path of Anne Frank 16:20 Holocaust Remembrance Day in Kibbutz Lohamei Hage'tol 17:00 Max Glick 17:30 David - prize-winning German film recounting the story of a young Jewish boy and the struggle of him and his family to survive during the Holocaust

SECOND SHOWING (6)

No broadcasts owing to Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day

DISCOVERY (6)

6:00 Open University 12:00 Man and Nature (pt) 13:00 Beyond 2000 (pt) 14:00 Open University 16:00 Man and Nature (pt) 17:00 Antisemitism: The Longest Hatred - Crossed to Swastika 17:55 Antisemitism: Enemies of the People 18:45 Antisemitism: Between Moses and Mohammed 20:00 Another Railway Trip - four neo-Nazis traveling to Auschwitz argue with a Holocaust survivor 21:50 Return to the Warsaw Ghetto 22:00 Ghetto and the Ghetto - the life and music of Victor Ullmann, who composed in Theresienstadt and was killed at Auschwitz 23:00 Oskar Schindler

ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Hey Dad 16:00 Mathematics for Bagrut 16:30 Following the signs - tales about Israel 17:00 Gulliver's Travels 17:30 Bestween racial - Bagaelles, Op. 126 Nos. 1-5 18:00 Shakespearean Theater 18:30 Family Relations 19:00 Conversations on a higher plane: Dr. Dina Porat and Professor Yosef Ben Shimon discuss whether the command of Erav Yisro could have done more to rescue fellow Jews during the period of the Holocaust. 19:30 Reflection - special program in memory of Holocaust survivor and harmonica exponent Shmuel Gogol, who died after returning from Poland in 1993 20:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) 20:30 The Hiding Place (1975) - story of Dutch Christians who provided a refuge for Jews during World War II, only to be caught and sent to a concentration camp. Starring Julie Harris and Michael York (120 mins.) 22:30 Revolutions in the Modern Era

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (pt) 9:00 One Life to Live (pt) 9:45 The Young and the Rubidious 10:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) 10:30 The Hiding Place (1975) - story of Dutch Christians who provided a refuge for Jews during World War II, only to be caught and sent to a concentration camp. Starring Julie Harris and Michael York (120 mins.) 22:30 Revolutions in the Modern Era

Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day - the Family Channel and Movie Channel present combined broadcasts

18:25 The Girls from Libau (Hebrew) - The story of two women who survive the Holocaust together, whose friendship is strengthened over the course of 50 years. The film follows the lives of the two through the ghetto and concentration camps. 17:20 Genocide - prize-winning American documentary, made to refute the

Holocaust deniers. Reel by Orson Welles and Elizabeth Taylor. (83 mins.) 18:45 Special program for Holocaust Remembrance Day. 19:30 To Search After Me (Hebrew) 20:10 Oskar Schindler: They Call Him Father Courage - documentary 21:00 Healing in the Killing (Hebrew) - chiting documentary about the role of physicians in the concentration camps. Focuses on the biographies of two Nazi doctors, bringing hitherto unknown details. 22:30 The Huppa - Benno and Helma, survivors from the Figa Ghetto, hold the wedding they couldn't have then 50 years later. 00:00 The Assault (1996, Dutch)

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Berdel (1990, Turkish) - Oriental family drama. (83 mins.) (pt) 12:00 1939 (1989, Swedish) - a farm girl comes to Stockholm on the eve of WWII falls in love with a charming, rich young man, but their love meets several unexpected obstacles. 15:00 Deer America (1987) - documentary based on letters written by US soldiers in Vietnam by Robert De Niro, Michael J. Fox, Robin Williams, Kathleen Turner, and many others. (82 mins.)

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Grace Under Fire 22:30 Barnaby Jones 23:30 Entertainment Tonight 00:00 Oprah Winfrey 1:00 Hard Copy 1:30 Home and Away 2:00 The Sullivans

CHANNEL 5

No broadcasts owing to Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day

EUROSPORT

9:30 Aerobics 10:30 Bicycle Racing - World Cup from France (pt) 12:00 International Motor Sports Magazine 13:00 Weight Lifting: Europe Cup from Norway (pt) 14:00 Boxing 15:00 Car racing (pt) 17:00 Aerobics 18:00 Body Building 19:00 Boston Marathon - live 21:30 Fasi World - Motor Sport Magazine 23:00 Professional Wrestling 00:00 Eurogoals - soccer 1:00 Eurogolf

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Golf: US Mester's Tournament, final day (pt) 6:30 Cricket: Pepsi Cup, summary 7:30 Golf: PGA Tournament 8:30 German Soccer 8:30 Cricket: Pepsi Cup, Pakistan vs South Africa - live 12:00 Gold: US Masters Tournament - summary 12:30 Cricket: Pepsi Cup, Pakistan vs South Africa - live (cont'd.) 16:30 Golf: US Masters Tournament, final day (pt) 19:00 Cricket: Pepsi Cup, summary 20:00 WWF Wrestling 23:00 Billiards 00:00 Thai Boxing 1:00 PGA Golf Tournament 1:30 Spanish Soccer League

BBC WORLD

News on the hour 10:15 The Money Programme 11:30 Top Gear 12:30 Food and Drink: Far Eastern Cookery (pt) 15:05 Correspondent (pt) 16:15 World Business Report 18:30 Asia-Pacific Newshour 17:30 London International Boat Show (pt) 18:15 The Money Programme 19:30 Tomorrow's World (pt) 22:05 The Money Programme (pt) 23:30 Time Out Holiday 00:00 World Business Report

CNN INTERNATIONAL

News throughout the day 6:30 (pt) 8:30 Diplomatic License 11:30 CNN Newshour 12:30 Headline News 13:00 Business Day 14:00 Asia News 14:30 World Sport 15:00 Asia News 15:30 Business Asia 16:50 Larry King Live 17:30 World Sport (pt) 18:30 Business Report 19:00 Special: The Holocaust Survivors - documentary produced by Steven Spielberg 21:00 World Business Today 21:30 World News 22:00 Larry King Live (pt) 00:00 World Business Today 00:30 World Sport 1:00 World News Survey

SKY NEWS

News on the hour 7:30 ABC World News 11:30 The Book Show 12:10 CBS News 13:00 World News 15:30 CBS Morning News 17:30 The Book Show 19:00 Live at Five 20:30 Sportline 22:10 CBS 60 Minutes 1:30 CBS Evening News

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Morning Concert 9:05 Sibelius: 6 Humoresques for violin and orch op 87 and 89; works by contemporary composers; Hajdu; King's Fenere 12:00 Light Classical - excerpts from operas and operettas by Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, Puccini, Messiaen; Offenbach 13:00 Saxophonist John Haris - Stanley Myers: Concerto for soprano saxophone; Milhaud: La creation du monde 14:00 Encores 15:00 Cycle of Works - Geothoven's piano sonatas 18:00 Early music 19:00 Etanah - program for Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. Miriam Meltzer (soprano), Ora Rothen (piano). Holocaust: The Vow; Julius Mescan; Songs from the Dust; Max Stern; 3 Songs; Aharon Harlap: Fire and Mountains; Suhmann: 3 Fantasiestücke (Heled, Zak) 19:00 Reinbow of Sounds 20:05 Mahler: Quartet movement in A minor for violin, viola, cello and piano; Brahms: Symphony no 2 21:00 A Matter of Remembering 23:00 Bloch: Mystic Romp, Be'al Shem; Mahler: 5 Songs from Ruckert

CINEMA

Before and After 5 * Pocahontas (Hebrew dialogue) * Broken Arrow 5 * Ace Ventura 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5 * Seven 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 4:45 * The Usual Suspects 11:30, 2:30, 5 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 5 * RAV-OR 1-5 * 5102674 Opera House II Positino 5 * Mighty Aphrodite 5 * Star Man 5 * Blue in the Face 5 TEL AVIV MUSEUM 691257 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard Before the Rain 5 HAIFA RAV-OR 1-3 * 246553 (OS) Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 5 * Ace Ventura 5 BAT YAM RAV-OR 5 * 5531077 Sabrina 4:45 * Before and After 5 * Broken Arrow 5 * Copycat 5 * Ace Ventura 5 * Twelve Monkeys 5 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 5 BEERSHEVA RAV-NEGEV 1-4 * 235278 Before and After/Broken Arrow 5 * Sense and Sensibility 4:30 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 5 HERZLIYA COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) * 692266 Sense and Sensibility 5 * Star Man 5 RAMATAN PARK Sense and Sensibility 5:30 * Broken Arrow 5:30 * Ace Ventura 5:30 * An Indian in the Cupboard 5:30 RAMAT GAN RAV-OR 1-4 * 6191712 Before and After 5 * Mighty Aphrodite 5 * Sense and Sensibility 5 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 5 YEHUD RAV-CHEN Savanin Before and After/Mighty Aphrodite 5 * Sense and Sensibility 5

Phone reservations: Tel Aviv 5252244 Phone reservations: Haifa 728878 All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS 1 With which handsman may make a hit (9) 9 Decline to be sent to prison (2,4) 10 Her dancing puts her up on points (9) 11 Yarn of partnership full of rums (6) 12 Children's programme shows the flag (4,5) 13 Bird in terrible danger (6) 17 I am about to object (3) 19 The precise thing (8,7) 20 Finish part of The Prisoner of Zenda (3) 21 Piece of music the man composed (6) 25 Holding back from exercise during break (9) 26 Boy that sings three times (6) 27 The French Revolution? (4,5) 28 Where you could be putting the vegetables (6) 29 Notice risk is a hit of excitement (9) DOWN 2 Genuinely see point in motor-race (6) 3 Plant disease not serious, we wrongly concluded (6) 4 Artist's short performance before royalty (6) 5 One wouldn't be bothered eating this (11,4) 6 How quickly the mail arrives? (9) 7 Loss of nerve of firm about to draw on reserve (9) 8 Naked girl goes to party with navy boy (9) 14 Benefit only available when people reach forty? (9) 15 Not liking article Margaret got ready to wear (3,3,3) 16 Stress ruled nine out (9) 17 Had a cooked tea (3) 18 Angry when barrier is tipped over (3) 22 Secure a vital commodity (6) 23 Gift of gold money (6) 24 No blonde would be so prejudiced (6)

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-29 indicating starting positions for the clues.

SOLUTIONS

YESTERDAY'S QUICK SOLUTION ACROSS: 1 Rabbi, 4 Touch, 10 Control, 11 Spite, 12 Piled, 13 Setaside, 15 Open, 17 Aroma, 19 Earle, 22 News, 25 Adviser, 27 Trail, 29 Dunes, 30 Orcaion, 31 Jetty, 32 Dying. DOWN: 2 Annual, 3 Boredom, 5 Onset, 6 Chianti

